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Sheves to head Rabin re-election campaign

SARAH HONIG

PRIME Minister's Office director-general Shimon Sheves will be appointed head of a special task force for Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's re-election campaign, it was announced yesterday.

The appointment is to take effect June 1, when Sheves will resign his current position.

He actually tendered his resignation to Rabin recently, but then decided to stay on.

Although Sheves previously had disputes with Finance Minister Avraham Shohat, his resignation is not linked to these difficulties.

Sheves's new task will be to shore up Rabin's position inside Labor, prepare for the primaries and serve as a liaison between Rabin and the party.

"The job description is general and must consider sensitivities that people, such as Party Secretary Nissim Zvili, may have," a close political ally of Rabin said. "But what it boils down to is Sheves running Rabin's campaign in 1996 as a campaign chairman based on a US model."

There are more than a few suggestions that Rabin be replaced by a more attractive candidate, such as Histadrut Chairman Haim Ramon and former chief of general staff Ehud Barak.

There is also a growing unrest inside the camp of Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who has not ruled out a challenge to Rabin's candidacy.

Sheves will reportedly remain Rabin's special adviser and have his ear on policy-making.

Alon Pinkas contributed to this report.



Jerusalem drivers stand at attention during the sounding of yesterday's Holocaust Remembrance Day siren. Story, Page 20. (Brian Hendler)

Donor nations to foot half of PA deficit

JOSE ROSENFELD and news agencies

DONOR countries agreed last night in Paris to fund less than half of the Palestinian Authority's \$136 million budget deficit, due to the Gulf states' failure to contribute, the Treasury reported.

Norwegian chairman Jan Egeland said donors had agreed to provide \$60 million towards meeting Palestinians' budget shortfall, and he expected more would be forthcoming to fill the gap.

Israel agreed to transfer an additional \$6.5m. on top of the \$4m. it has already contributed, so that 42 percent of the \$25m. the country has set aside for projects, will instead be used to fund current Palestinian expenses.

Treasury spokesman Eli Yoseph said further meetings will take place to try to get the Gulf states to help cover the PA's deficit.

The donor countries conditioned the funding on better spending controls and reporting by the PA, the Treasury reported.

PA Minister for International Economic Cooperation Nabil Shaath told reporters the donors had agreed in principle to earmark 25 percent of the \$1 billion they pledged for 1994 and this year to meet PA startup costs. These include paying teachers, doctors, and the police force.

The Palestinians agreed in return to freeze salaries and hiring at current levels, and to aim for complete self-financing through taxation next year.

"This will give us peace of mind and reduce uncertainties," (Continued on Page 2)

Suicide attack planned for Netanya foiled

ALON PINKAS

THE General Security Service and the IDF earlier this week arrested a Palestinian a day before he was to execute a suicide attack in Netanya.

An army statement said that the man, Zakariya Zakarna, 21, of Kabatiya in Samaria, is being interrogated. He is suspected of planning to blow himself up at a roadside stop near the post office at the entrance to Netanya.

Zakarna told interrogators that he was under suspicion as a collaborator and proposed to Hamas to carry out the attack as a way to clear his and his family's name.

Zakarna is a relative of Raid Zakarna, who murdered eight Israelis in a suicide attack near a bus stop in Afula a year ago.

"The suspect offered to carry out the attack because he was accused by residents of his village of collaborating with Israel," said the statement.

"To vindicate his family, he contacted Hamas activists in the village and made his offer."

The army did not disclose the circumstances of Zakarna's arrest, or the leads which directed the GSS to him.

US congressmen call Israel ungrateful

JOSE ROSENFELD

REPUBLICAN members of a US House Foreign Affairs Committee delegation charged Israel of violating the 1985 Free Trade Area (FTA) agreement between the two countries and of being ungrateful for US aid at a meeting with Finance Minister Avraham Shohat in Jerusalem on Wednesday.

A source close to the congressional delegation said Republican Congressman Bill Thomas, who chairs the House foreign affairs subcommittee on trade, told Shohat that based on information he had from the administration, Israel is violating the FTA by not abolishing tariffs on agricultural imports.

"You are not allowing us to export oranges, and are taking advantage of the Uruguay Round to avoid your FTA obligations," Thomas was quoted as saying.

Under the FTA agreement, all goods from both countries are duty-free since January. The agreement with the US, however, allows both countries to protect agriculture through non-tariff barriers.

The problem facing both countries is that under the recently concluded GATT trade agreement, all member countries are required to replace non-tariff barriers with tariffs. The US official position is that Israel must conform to both agreements, thereby exposing the country's agricultural sector.

Industry and Trade Ministry Foreign Trade Administration director Zohar Peri said the US position would mean the obliteration of Israel's agriculture.

Finance Ministry International Division director Ehud Kaufman pointed out that both the new GATT agreement and the FTA make provisions for a separate agricultural policy, and that negotiations with the Americans would preserve the original intent.

Thomas also attacked the trade imbalance in Israel's favor as proof that Israel was not giving US exporters a fair chance.

Republican Congressman Dan Mica of Florida was reported to have said, "I don't understand how you can behave like that. If it wasn't for US aid, your neighbors would have squished you like a bug."

(Continued on Page 2)

PM wants satellite cooperation with US

ALON PINKAS

THE Ofek-3 satellite is performing above expectations and is transmitting high quality photographs, according to a senior Defense Ministry official.

Meanwhile, Channel 1 last night reported that during his upcoming visit to Washington, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin will propose satellite cooperation between the two countries to US President Bill Clinton.

Until now, Israel has not made the US privy to either the planning or the performance of the Ofek-3.

Rabin, according to the report, will propose a deal under which Israel would get high-resolution

US satellite information (the Ofek-3 photos are not considered high resolution), while Israel would steer the Ofek-3 above points designated by the US as important to it.

The report also said that deputy Mossad head Ephraim Halevy would lead the Israeli team dealing with cooperation on satellite information.

In April 1994, Clinton approved Israeli export of satellite and space technology to the US. The approval allowed Israeli firms to participate in lucrative US tenders.

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Orlando: 2+TV+1 in Emerald leather

Charisma: 3+TV+TV in Black leather

Model and Color	* Configuration	Retail Price in England	Price Here in Shekels	Comment
Arcadia Black	2+2	£2,650	7,995 nls	Perfect
Aztec Magnolia	2+1+1	£3,250	7,995 nls	Perfect
Arcadia Navy Blue	3+2+TV	£3,950	12,995 nls	Slight Defect
Charisma Lime Green	3+TV+TV	£3,950	11,995 nls	Perfect
Charisma Black	3+1+TV	£3,650	10,995 nls	Shop Soiled
Pagoda Pink	3+1+1+ST	£3,950	10,995 nls	Perfect
Kimono Emerald	2+2+1	£4,250	10,995 nls	2 Incliners
Sasha Magnolia	3+1+1	£3,500	9,995 nls	Perfect
Orlando Emerald	3+2+1	£4,500	12,995 nls	Slight Defect
Chesterfield Antique Red	3+2 Master chairs	£3,495	11,995 nls	Perfect
Chesterfield Antique Brown	Master Chair	£1,099	2,995 nls	Perfect
Chesterfield Antique Red	Master Chair	£1,099	2,995 nls	Slight Defect

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Desk Mahogany	1.37m x 69cm	£1,099	3,650 nls
Bureau Mahogany	77cm wide	£899	2,495 nls
Captain Style Office Chair	Leather	£899	2,595 nls
Odd Seats Floral	2 seats	From	1,995 nls
Corner Group Traditional	6 seats	£3,950	6,995 nls
Dining Table Mahogany	2.25m x 1m	£799	1,995 nls
Dining Chairs Mahogany		From	400 nls

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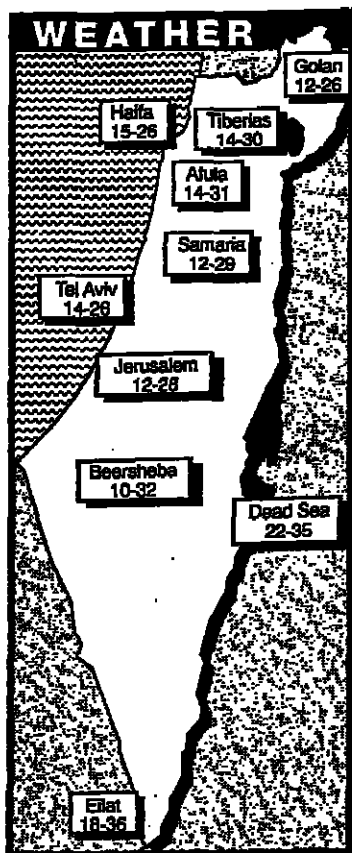
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Frankfurt	17	23	clear
Geneva	17	23	clear
Helsinki	17	23	clear
Hong Kong	24	30	clear
London	17	23	clear
Los Angeles	17	23	clear
Madrid	17	23	clear
Moscow	17	23	clear
New York	17	23	clear
Paris	17	23	clear
Rome	17	23	clear
Stockholm	17	23	clear
Tokyo	17	23	clear
Washington	17	23	clear

Winning numbers

In last night's Payis Hazak drawing, the holder of ticket number 861171 won NIS 1,000,000.

The holder of ticket number 137431 won a car. Tickets numbered 624965, 853384, 536149, 898466, 752293, 517345, 077269 and 115988 won NIS 5,000. Those tickets ending in 33447, 16973, 75771, 32451, 54914, 58070, 15781, 57672, 61532, 00708, 98808, 26605, 55163, 31501, 48775 13232, 40204, 54396 and 37347 won NIS 1,000. Tickets ending in 045, 878, 951, 912, and 826 won NIS 100. Tickets ending in 58, 76, 55, 99 and 32 won NIS 24. Tickets ending in 6 and 1 won NIS 8.

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the 10 of spades, king of hearts, ace of diamonds, and 10 of clubs.

J'lem plans to confiscate 4,400 dunams of Arab land

BILL HUTMAN

THE recent expropriation of more than 500 dunams (125 acres) of land in eastern Jerusalem is the first stage of a larger expropriation plan, deputy mayor Uri Lupoliansky said yesterday.

The municipality has also requested expropriations be carried out for Jewish housing projects near Pisgat Ze'ev and Gilo, Lupoliansky said.

He declined to give an overall figure for earmarked land. But from his past statements and municipal sources, it appears an additional 4,400 dunams have been so earmarked.

Areas earmarked include about 800 dunams near Pisgat Ze'ev, 2,000 dunams near Walleja village, 800 dunams near the

Mar Elias Monastery, and another 800 dunams near Givat Hamatos, officials close to the plan said.

"The Arabs simply must understand that there are more Jews living in this city, and they need places to live," said Lupoliansky, who holds the building and planning portfolio at City Hall.

Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat called the initial expropriation "a seriously blow to the peace process."

"Israel continues in its activities that hurt the peace process," Arafat said. "The expropriation in Jerusalem is only the latest example of this."

Meretz ministers called for the expropriation process to be halted, and for the matter to be brought before the government.

"The wholesale expropriation of land belonging to Arab residents for the purpose of building or expanding Jewish neighborhoods is done with complete disregard for the housing needs of Arab residents of Jerusalem," Absorption Minister Yair Tzaban said in a statement.

The Finance Ministry - the authority responsible for expropriations - at the beginning of the month published its decision to expropriate 335 dunams of land, most owned by Arab residents of Beit Hanina.

Earlier this week, the ministry announced a second expropriation of 200 dunams, also nearly all Arab-owned, near Beit Safafa.

Expropriation orders require the signature of the minister. Landowners have 30 days from the date of the announcements, which were printed in the Arabic press, to appeal.

Arab residents, however, have charged that the exact location of the land was not published, making it impossible for them to know whose land is being expropriated.

"We are not discriminating against Arabs," said Lupoliansky. "On my desk right now is a plan to allow for additional building in Tsur Bahar."

IDF has plan to leave 6 cities

ALON PINKAS

THE IDF has elaborate plans to pull out of six cities in the territories and build new bases outside the city limits, a senior army officer confirmed last night.

According to the plan - formulated by the IDF Planning Branch, Central Command and office of the coordinator of activities in the territories - the army will vacate Nablus, Jenin, Tul-karm, Kalkilya, Ramallah and Bethlehem and deploy outside them.

Many of the camps in the cities will be moved to within the Green Line.

The army source said Hebron constitutes a complex problem if redeployment is to be implemented, because it contains several small pockets of settlement within the city.

"At this stage, Hebron has not been considered because of the obvious political ramifications a plan would have," he said.

The plan, which is the main component of "Keshet Tzva'im-2" redeployment plan, is contingent on a political decision.

It is now being only partially implemented, with the partial vacating of two army bases used for basic training: Training Base 3, near Nablus, and Training Base 4, near Ramallah.

A third camp due to be vacated is Adorayim, south of Hebron, but this is not included in the plan.

The cost of the plan is estimated at NIS 1 billion, with the cost of constructing the new bases estimated at approximately NIS 600 million.

Some NIS 300m. will be needed to fund the construction of new detour roads for the army and settlers, as well as for the Palestinians, to minimize friction.

An additional NIS 100 million is required to finance what the army defines as "special security needs," which would include fences and electronic monitoring stations.

The IDF and Treasury officials will meet again next week to continue the discussion on the costs begun earlier this week.

Hamas man died 'unnaturally'

AN autopsy confirmed yesterday that a Hamas member died of unnatural causes after being interrogated by General Security Service agents, Israel Radio reported.

The autopsy said Abdel-Samad Hassan Harizat died as a result of a "traumatic event," the radio said.

Family members and human rights groups charge that Harizat,

30, was tortured to death.

Justice Ministry spokeswoman Ertzy Eshed said they are awaiting more test results before releasing a cause of death.

She said the autopsy was performed by an Israeli pathologist, but was monitored by a Scottish pathologist at the family's request.

Harizat, 30, was detained by the GSS last Friday and hospital-

ized at Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem the next day. Hospital officials said he was brought in unconscious. He died Tuesday in intensive care.

Security sources said Harizat, a Hamas member, was suspected of running a cell responsible for fatal attacks on Jewish settlers.

Hamas warned that Israel would "pay a very high price" for Harizat's death. (AP)

Soldier arrested for killing fleeing Arab

POLICE yesterday arrested a soldier who shot to death an as yet unidentified Arab who ran a police roadblock near Beit Lid.

Police said it was unclear if the man was a territories' resident who stole a car in Kfar Sava and attempted to run down a policeman at the roadblock.

As he fled, police and soldiers gave chase, catching up with him in the village of Kalansua. The man then abandoned his car and tried to flee on foot. One of the soldiers then shot him.

Another Palestinian was shot dead by soldiers at a roadblock on the outskirts of Jerusalem.

The army said it was checking why the soldiers opened fire on the man, identified by relatives as Nasr Amr, 50.

Channel 20 showed Amr's body, covered with a sheet, on the road near his bloodstained car, a few meters from the roadblock, manned by reservists.

The television reported that soldiers said Amr, who was transporting Arab workers, had behaved suspiciously at the checkpoint. (News agencies)

Ex-chief rabbi urges soldiers to disobey

HERB KEINON

IDF soldiers should not follow orders to dismantle military bases in Judea and Samaria, former chief rabbi Avraham Shapiro said yesterday.

"It is a transgression to withdraw from Eretz Yisrael," Shapiro said. "Soldiers should not obey orders to do so."

Shapiro was among a number of leading rabbinical figures in the national religious camp who last year called on IDF soldiers to refuse orders to evacuate settlements.

His statement came after Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's Wednesday announcement that three IDF basic training bases in the territories will be used for other purposes, and that the trainees will be moved inside the Green Line.

Shapiro made his remarks at a meeting of the leaders of the Jewish Forum to Save Eretz Yisrael,

an umbrella organization made up of groups representing professors, rabbis, and reserve officers opposed to the government's peace moves.

The forum issued a statement that read: "The IDF withdrawal from population centers and the evacuation of bases in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza endangers numerous lives of Jews living there and throughout the country. Therefore it is necessary to form a civil guard made up of volunteers to man vital security installations that will be evacuated by the IDF."

Brig-Gen. (res.) Amatzia Hen, representing a group of senior reserve officers opposed to the continuation of the current peace process, said people will be "forced to protect their lives and property by any means possible" if the IDF withdraws from the population centers.

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Iran's fear

IRAN'S ban on satellite dishes and the Tehran government's order to dismantle 500 such dishes in private use have not made big headlines. But they are more indicative of what animates Islamic militancy than most other news. What troubles the Iranian regime more than anything else is the impact of Western culture, particularly in its more popular and seductive manifestations. Not unreasonably, the mullahs are worried that traditional Islam, its family structures, mores and disciplines will be undermined if Moslems are exposed to Western television.

They are also undoubtedly aware of the impact Western electronic media had on the people living in the Soviet empire. Without exposure to Western information, without the contact that the media provided, it is doubtful that the revolt against the Soviet domination would have taken place.

Such fears of the television culture are not exclusive to Moslems. Others, including many in the democracies, also have misgivings about the deterioration of values, corruption of youth,

glorification of violence and numbing emptiness of trashy programs. But while Westerners try to counter such influences with education, improvement and change, the mullahs take the totalitarian route of prohibition and banning.

For Israelis it is important to realize that much if not all of the Moslem hatred for this country has nothing to do with its size. Israel represents the cursed, Satanic West. That it is closer to the heart of the Arab world, and that it has established a sovereignty on land once conquered by Moslems, makes it a favored and more convenient target. But as long as it is a sovereign, Westernized state, it would be foolhardy to suppose that if it becomes smaller, or if it helps establish the 23rd Arab state in the region, it will be tolerated by the Islamic world.

Ultimately, Iranians and other Moslems may succumb to the seduction of the free, democratic and affluent West, the way Eastern Europe has done. But it is only that, rather than anything Israel can do, which will make a Jewish state in the Middle East truly acceptable to its neighbors.

The election law battle

THAT the malaise of corruption in high places is not unique to Israel is of little comfort. Nor is it reassuring that some of the current scandals in Europe and the US are more shocking, or that in Israel most of the crimes have little to do with personal profit. Felonies committed for political power, election advantages, business needs or even to subsidize worthy causes are still felonies. They are intolerable in public life, and the officials who commit them deserve public contempt and severe punishment.

What is particularly depressing about the almost daily revelations about charges against government ministers, Knesset members, Hishdut officials, mayors, army officers and press moguls is that such crimes obviously do not exist in a vacuum. They can only flourish in the fertile ground of cold-blooded political cynicism and infinite contempt for the law. An odious example of such cynicism is the clamor of some in the Labor Party to repeal the law for the direct election of the prime minister.

This is not just a case of changing the rules in mid-game because one side has suddenly discovered that it may lose under the newly-minted regulations. This is an attempt to scuttle a revolutionary change in the system of government effected as a result of one of the most massive protests ever mounted by the Israeli public.

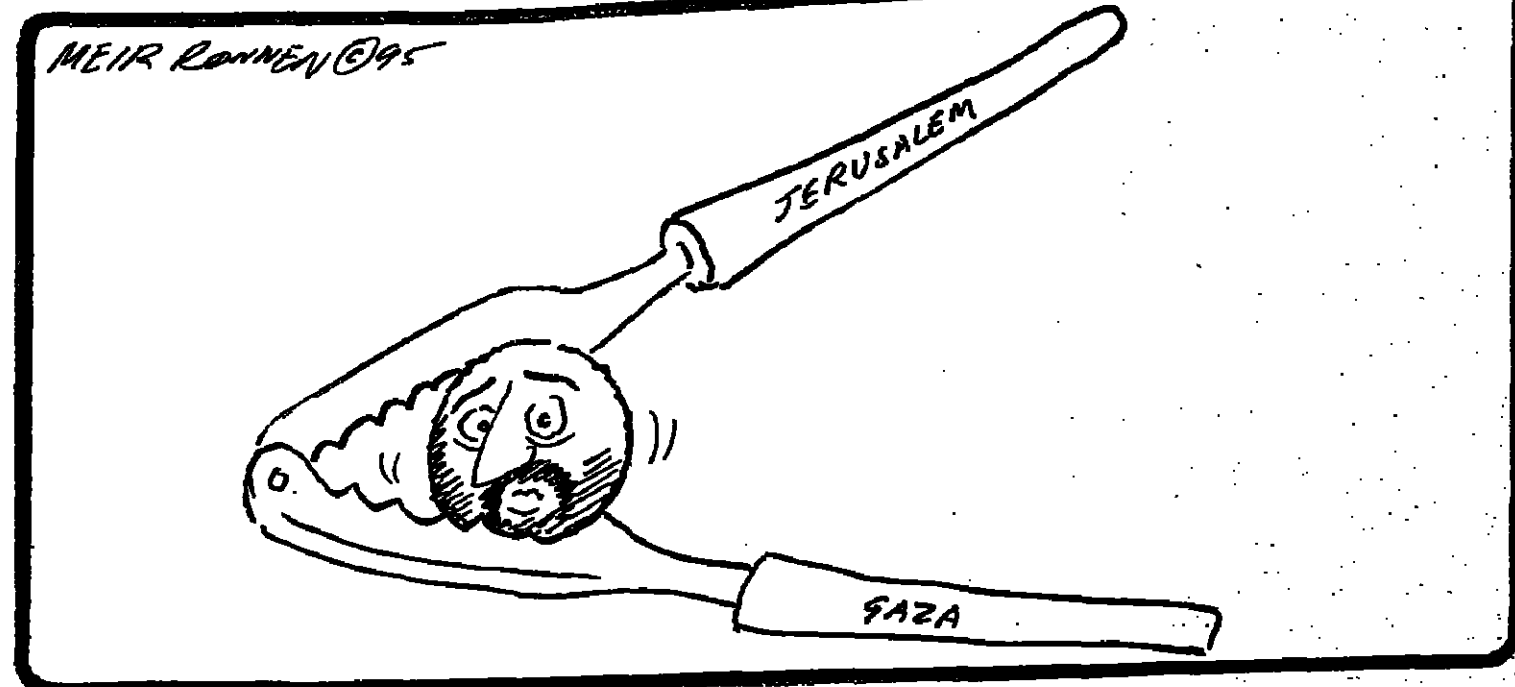
This protest was a spontaneous, outraged reaction to the nauseating horse-trading and endless paralysis that afflict the forming and running of the government, and it reflected the wishes of a vast majority of the population. Nor was the law formed in haste. Perhaps for the first time in the state's history, legislators representing the whole gamut of political opinion - Yoash Tsidon of Tsomet, Amnon Rubinstein of Shinui, Uriel Linn of Likud, and David Liba'i of Labor - joined in a long, arduous and well-thought-out effort to introduce fundamental reform. For Labor to repeal the law now would be nothing short of a betrayal of the public trust. In the Labor Party it is Prime Minister Yitz-

hak Rabin who originally supported the direct election of the prime minister and who still advocates it. This is hardly surprising. His popularity in recent years has far exceeded that of his party. And as an admirer of the American system, he favors the greater power and independence the new system gives the executive branch. Nor is it surprising that Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who is deemed less popular, opposes the reform. (These perceptions may change now that the polls show little difference in the popularity of the potential Labor candidates. They are all running 13 percentage points behind Likud Chairman Binyamin Netanyahu.)

But to a large extent it is Rabin who is responsible for the contempt politicians harbor for basic laws, and for the ease with which some in his own party are proposing a repeal of the new election law even before it takes effect. When he ordered a change in the meat importation law to placate Shas, and more recently in the law preventing political defectors from becoming ministers (to enable the Yid'ud faction to join the government), he pointed the way to political anarchy.

Those who claim that the law for the direct election of the premier should be balanced by a constitution and complemented by a reform of Knesset election system have a point. The legislature will be more responsive to the electorate if district representation replaces today's proportional system. And a constitution - or at least the adoption of some basic laws which can only be changed by a special majority - will undoubtedly add protection from abuse. But the nation cannot afford to wait until these changes are made before it streamlines the way the government is formed and run.

Above all, Israel cannot afford another show of contempt for the law. The move by self-serving politicians to scrap a law just because it may not serve their personal ambition is destructive and irresponsible. And it is a grave mistake to believe that the voters will treat kindly those who defy the public will for political gain.



Bergen-Belsen: 50 years after

CHAIM HERZOG

The following is excerpted from a speech made yesterday at the site of the death camp.

WHAT happened in the first half of this century cannot be undone. No people can step out of its history and disown it. It is a legacy which can never be denied.

Our children will remain the heirs of the past. This creates both a problem and a bond; it also creates a duty and a responsibility both to each other and to mankind; a responsibility to work toward a state of affairs in which Auschwitz or Bergen-Belsen will not be able ever to repeat itself.

We have to look history in the face, and accept what is reflected in its however-distant mirror, as President Von Weizsaecker so fearfully pointed out in his memorable speech to the Bundestag in May 1985.

"We need and we have the strength to look the truth straight in the eye without embellishment and without distortion.... Anyone who closes his eyes to the past is blind to the present...."

But we know that free men are capable of change, capable of forging a noble future. In this case, although it is not in the power of mere mortals to forgive, the remembrance of things past is not, and should never be, viewed as moral self-paralysis. The opposite is true: it is a moral imperative, enunciating the determination that what once occurred must never occur again.

The State of Israel, emerging from the depths of Jewish dreams and prayers over the centuries,

and the new Germany, have both arisen on the ruins of those years. Both bear a responsibility for different reasons to be a symbol of human justice, of the sanctity of human life, of equality without distinction of religion, race or color, of freedom and dignity.

could best be summed up in a verse from the Psalms: "I shall not die, but I shall live and relate the deeds of the Almighty."

The European Holocaust swept away in limitless tragedy one of the most glorious epochs of Jewish history. It sealed an

Israel and the new Germany must struggle for a world which will be the antithesis of all Nazism stood for

We are both committed to taking a stand against all wicked regimes that suppress the dignity of man and practice fanatic religious fundamentalism, racism and discrimination. We both have to struggle for a world of peace, a world which will be the antithesis and complete rejection of all that Nazism stood for.

The State of Israel bears the prime responsibility of guaranteeing the future of a Jewish people which is strong and steadfast in its moral strength, in its human quality and its ability to protect itself.

I believe that Germany has a historic responsibility to help Israel in this vital task of survival and to abstain from any act which might strengthen those who are declared enemies.

I BELONG to and represent a unique people in history. Our concept of our life down the ages

epoch in Judaism. The soul of the nation was ravaged, its spiritual continuity was threatened, and its very life hung in precarious balance. The poignancy of our tragedy was without parallel in the annals of mankind.

Only three years after the greatest crime in history had been perpetrated against our people, the Jewish nation restored its statehood. The scar of exile was healed; Jewish dignity was rescued and uplifted.

A nation regained the sources of its eternal inspiration, and immortal prophecy was vindicated before its very eyes. A new and glorious epoch was opened to our people. Hope and dignity were vouchsafed.

On this moving and inspiring occasion, on this holy site, which I first encountered 50 years ago as a Jewish soldier from the Land of Israel participating in the destruction of the Nazi regime, "pluck-

ing the brands from the fire," the memory of those shocking sights will never leave me.

I do not bring forgiveness with me, nor forgetfulness. The only ones who can forgive are the dead; the living have no right to forget.

You, my brothers and sisters whose remains lie here, bequeath to our people the precept of life, the imperative of existence; to ensure that never again will the Jew be a helpless victim, and that never again will Holocaust and destruction be the fate of Israel.

You bequeathed a testament to build the future of the Jewish people in its own land, proud and free. A people strong in its moral right and in its moral force no less than in its ability to defend itself, a people that arose from the ashes of the Holocaust to a constructive, creative new life.

The grief of your death will be eternally with us. Not as a perpetual hatred, not as barren paralyzing hostility, but as a call to strength and steadfastness. A call to understand the depths to which the human soul could sink, and a call to rise above them. To fulfill with all our very being the antithesis of evil, of wickedness: "Turn away from evil and do good. Seek peace and pursue it."

In the name of the Jewish people, and the State of Israel, I repeat our oath never to forget you and to be forever faithful to your bequest - the imperative of life.

The writer, Israel's sixth president, served as an officer in the British Second Army which liberated Bergen-Belsen.

Three surprises on the Golan

MOSHE ZAK

YITZHAK Rabin has been caught by surprise three times on the Golan. Once in war, and twice over a peace initiative.

The first time was on June 9, 1967. Chief of staff Yitzhak Rabin was surprised when defense minister Moshe Dayan went over his head and ordered the O/C Northern Command to break through to the Golan. After the war, Dayan apologized, claiming that he had tried to find Rabin, but was told that he was asleep.

The second time was in 1968, when ambassador Rabin discovered in Washington that his government had informed the American administration, on June 19, 1967, that it was ready to conduct peace negotiations with Syria (and Egypt) on the basis of the international borders.

Rabin's third surprise came in November 1994, when Argentinean President Carlos Menem stated that he had passed on a message from Shimon Peres to President Assad regarding Israel's willingness to withdraw from the whole Golan.

Rabin was especially miffed by Menem's answer to journalists who asked how he could reconcile this statement with the prime minister's statement that Israel couldn't pay Syria the price it was asking for peace. Replied Menem: "That is an internal Israeli matter. I have passed the message on to Assad."

Following this, Shimon Peres

denied that he had promised a total withdrawal from the Golan. As a friendly gesture, Menem put out an announcement to the effect that his words had apparently been mistranslated.

But Rabin was no longer surprised when Peres recently stated on TV that the dispute between Israel and Syria was over no more than 62,000 dunams, the minor difference between the June 4, 1967 lines and the international border.

And the fourth: a ludicrous global round-robin involving Russia, Japan, Syria and Israel

The foreign minister was able to package this concession attractively, recalling that in June 1967 the Eshkol/Begin government had expressed willingness to negotiate with Syria on the basis of the international border. But this was a half-truth.

First, it wasn't an Eshkol/Begin government. It was an Eshkol government, which Begin, together with Moshe Dayan, joined in the June 1967 crisis.

Second, the government had coupled "Israel's security requirements" with the offer on the international border. When foreign minister Abba Eban submit-

ted the decision to US secretary of state Dean Rusk, he explained that the purpose was border corrections, as dictated by Israel's security requirements.

Third, the decision was retracted by the government in October 1967.

THE GOVERNMENT approved the establishment of the first Jewish settlements on the Golan even before the formal retraction of the June 19 decision.

Peres, who wasn't yet a government minister, wanted more. On September 10, 1967, he called for a "complete takeover of the Golan Heights."

The government cannot rely today on a decision which has already been rescinded. It can use the June 19 decision internally, but it will only weaken its own bargaining position with Syria.

Yitzhak Rabin would be surprised to hear that his commanding officer, Yigal Allon, suggested imposing Israeli law on the Golan 13 years before Begin actually did so. The suggestion wasn't adopted because of Eban's

opposition.

Eban did not dispute Israel's status on the Golan, but was concerned that such a step would block the process of international acceptance "of our absolute control of the Golan and our capability of doing whatever we wish."

Rabin would be even more surprised to hear that the deputy foreign minister is considering a new scheme for getting rid of the Golan, in a round-robin deal involving Russia, Syria, Japan and Israel.

Since the US cannot pay for the Israel-Syria agreement, Yossi Beilin imagines that Japan will pay \$10b. to Russia for the return of the Kurile Islands to Japan. In return Russia will write off Syria's \$10b. arms debt. In return for that, Syria will agree to peace with Israel, and Israel will hand over the Golan and agree to Syrian control of Lebanon.

Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozirev, who cancelled the meeting with the Israeli deputy foreign minister, didn't get to hear the details of his brilliant plan. (He canceled this meeting and others to show contempt for Israel, in the hope that this would give him an advantage in Damascus.)

If nothing else, the proposed global deal will evoke mirth in Russia and Japan, and a few guffaws in the US.

The writer, a veteran journalist, comments on current affairs.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

Sir, - I was amazed to hear and read that a Druze woman was refused an Israeli passport by the Ministry of the Interior because she does not speak Hebrew. As far as I know, there are two official languages in Israel: Hebrew and Arabic. So how can an Arabic speaker be refused a passport?

Incidentally, it is difficult to know about the second official language by referring to traffic signs on major roads which are usually in Hebrew and English although the latter has no official standing in this country.

ALFRED MARKUS
Tel Aviv.

ROYAL VISITS

Sir, - I refer to your letter of April 11, "L'Es-Majesté," regarding the lack of manners displayed by our Knesset towards the Queen of the Netherlands.

We are to be honored later this year by another charming queen, Queen Margrethe of Denmark, the granddaughter of King Christian X. Fortunately for us, the Knesset is in recess at the date of the queen's visit. Normally, the Knesset should be recalled for a special session for the queen to address it, as is customary when a head of state visits our country. It would be particularly scandalous if the Knesset were to behave in its usual boorish fashion. After all, Denmark, as is well known, is the only country which literally saved its entire Jewish community during World War II.

DAVID ISRAEL
Caesarea.

POLLARD'S SENTENCE

Sir, - Frank Collins (Letters, April 19) accuses supporters of Jonathan Pollard of attempting "to exonerate Pollard from his treason to the US." But Pollard was not charged with treason, which is defined very clearly and precisely in the US Constitution as "adhering to the enemy, giving him aid and comfort."

Pollard should be freed, not because he is innocent, but because his sentence of life imprisonment is so disproportionate to his actual crime (passing classified information to an ally) and to the sentences given to others for similar acts - and even for treason itself - that it amounts to cruel and unusual punishment.

MARJORIE COOPER
Haifa.

COMING TO TERMS

Sir, - During the course of a recent speech before the Knesset, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres dwelt on the 300-year armed struggle between Ireland and the United Kingdom. However, he did not mention that the violent terror of the past 25 years subsided only when the UK government offered to negotiate for peace on condition of a six-month absolute cessation of violence, together with the demand to surrender all arms. In short: total armistice before the beginning of peace negotiations. This is, in fact, the age-old classic example for coming to terms - any terms - with one's enemy.

Will Mr. Peres ever try to learn anything from history?
E.M. PINTER

RACISM IN SPORTS

Sir, - I came here from England as a volunteer, not expecting miracles, but believing that the one thing I would not find in Israel was racial abuse towards any minorities within society. As a result, I was disgusted recently at a soccer match in Jerusalem, in which there was one black player, to hear monkey noises from the crowd every time the aforementioned player touched the ball, and no one seemed to find it unacceptable or offensive.

This type of behavior is something I have witnessed before, back in England, but recently, it has become an offense to make racist calls at games. I find it astounding and worrying that a nation, for so long the object of others' aggression, can itself bring disrepute and a lack of humanity to what is merely a game. Not only is this rather hypocritical and a neglect of any empathy the Israeli people most definitely have, but it is a poor example to those younger people whose minds are easily influenced.

R. T. SCHNEIDER
Ashkelon (London).

TERROR IN OKLAHOMA

Sir, - The horror of the nightmarish events that took place in Oklahoma City are, unfortunately, too familiar to all Israelis. Our hearts go out to all those who have suffered a catastrophic loss. But it was Oleg, in his cartoon of April 23, who was able to express perfectly the shared grief of the people of Israel and the people of Oklahoma City.

BARBARA SILVERMAN
Jerusalem.

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Here

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RABBINICAL C

Scrabble on Monday

The Jerusalem Scrabble Club will be in session every week on Monday evening at 7:30 p.m. The international Cultural Centre, 12 Emeq Pe'et (Buses 4, 14, 18).

JRSLM SCRBBL CLB

The Jerusalem Scrabble Club is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the game of Scrabble in Israel. We welcome players of all ages and skill levels. For more information, contact the club secretary at 315666.

Major gas pipeline blows up in Russia, no injuries reported

MOSCOW (AP) — A major gas pipeline blew up in a remote wooded region of the subarctic yesterday, belching a huge pillar of flames skyward in the latest breakdown in Russia's decaying oil and gas network.

No injuries were reported in the explosion, which scorched an estimated five hectares of thick forest in the same Komi republic where a massive oil spill raised worldwide environmental concern last year.

A Japan Air Lines pilot and his passengers spotted the huge fireball as they passed over the area en route to Tokyo from Frankfurt. One passenger called it "brighter than anything I've ever seen" and said "it was as if the sun was climbing upward."

Russian officials, who in the past have tried to cover up such accidents, immediately downplayed the blast.

A spokesman for Gazprom, the state gas monopoly, rejected the pilot's description of a fireball over 7,000 meters high and said it reached no more than 20 meters. But that didn't square with

eyewitness accounts from the JAL flight or an employee for Severgazprom, the Gazprom unit that operates the pipeline.

"There was a big explosion. Everything shook. Then we saw a great fire against the dark sky. It was terrible," Lyudmila Nikitseva, a duty officer at Severgazprom, told The Associated Press by telephone.

Windows shook in Ukhta, a city of 150,000 people located 13 km. north of the blast, and frightened residents rushed into the streets when they heard the explosion shortly after 2 a.m.

Akira Yamakawa, the JAL pilot, diverted the 747-400 airliner away from a fireball he said was about 7,600 meters high.

"I saw a red burning cloud below at one moment and then it became black. That was repeated again and again," he said. "We didn't know what was happening. We felt very uneasy."

The explosion left a crater 5 meters deep and 15 meters wide, Russian television said.

The accident refocused attention on the problems of the aging

former Soviet energy complex. Severgazprom said the pipeline was 15 years old and may have been unable to withstand the gas flow pressure any longer.

ITAR-Tass quoted a local official with the Ministry of Emergency Situations as saying fires on the pipeline are not uncommon. Russia, which has enormous oil and gas reserves, wastes more through leaks and spills than some countries produce.

"The whole infrastructure of pipelines in Russia is very old and bad," said Eduard Gismatullin, who works for the environmental group Greenpeace in Moscow. "Nobody paid much attention to them in Soviet times. Now they just don't have the money or equipment to maintain them properly."

The pipeline carries gas produced in the region to other parts of Russia and the West, including Germany. Officials said the fire was extinguished within two hours and a backup pipeline put into service while the ruptured line was repaired.

Russia supplies 30 percent of

Western Europe's natural gas.

German officials said the accident couldn't have happened in Germany because a monitoring system automatically shuts down pipelines when a break or leak occurs.

Last summer and fall, a series of leaks in an aging pipeline some 500 km. to the northeast of yesterday's blast generated a massive spill that polluted rivers and streams near the city of Uinsk.

US authorities said it may have been the world's worst spill, totaling as much as 270 tons, although Russian officials continue to insist that the environmental damage was minimal.

A Greenpeace team that visited the Uinsk site this week reported yesterday that lakes, rivers and marshland in the area are covered with oil and workers are burning the oil instead of cleaning it up.

"The area is devastated. There are acres and acres of blackened marshland, and every river and stream has oil in it," said Greenpeace's Paul Horsman. "As we feared, the spring has brought a deadly tide of oil over the area."

Bomb death toll reaches 110

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — The FBI yesterday said it is looking for a license plate that may have fallen off a bombing suspect's getaway car, and rescuers found 11 more bodies in the ruined federal building, bringing the death toll to 110.

Rescuers recovered eight of the bodies after they dug into "the pit" of the pancaked floors above the day care center and Social Security offices. Fire Chief Gary Marrs said. The three other bodies were found elsewhere.

"It seems to be going faster the lower we go," he said.

All found yesterday were adults, he said.

Weldon Kennedy, the FBI agent in charge, said the FBI was looking for a specific Arizona license plate that may have fallen off Timothy McVeigh's car near the blast scene. The car was missing a plate when McVeigh was stopped by a state trooper 90 minutes after the bombing.

McVeigh faced a preliminary hearing yesterday afternoon at the federal prison near Oklahoma City where he was being held.

His lawyers planned to request the proceedings be moved to another location, presumably because they think the public mood in Oklahoma City is too hostile toward the suspect to afford McVeigh a fair trial.

The lawyers were to renew their request to drop out of the case, partly due to threats received. McVeigh is the only person charged with the April 19 bombing of the US federal building. Police have not named the second suspect and FBI agent Kennedy said yesterday they still do not know who he is.

So far, investigators say, McVeigh is not talking. But prosecutors' version of his activities prior to the April 19 bombing emerged at a Wichita, Kansas,

hearing for his Army friend, Terry Nichols. The events laid out in court left many unanswered questions. Like what to make of a chilling statement McVeigh made to Nichols while driving from Oklahoma City to Kansas? "Something big is going to happen," McVeigh said, according to a prosecutor.

"Are you going to rob a bank?" Nichols asked.

"Something big is going to happen," McVeigh repeated.



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Rwandan president to visit camp

KIGALI (Reuters) — Rwanda's President Pasteur Bizimungu plans to visit a camp this morning where thousands were massacred, in an attempt to persuade a group of Hutus still holed up there to return to villages they abandoned a year ago.

Government officials said Bizimungu, himself a Hutu, will lead a team of foreign diplomats to Kibeho camp in the southwest of the country for a one-day visit the government hopes will limit damage done by the weekend slaughter.

"The president is visiting Kibeho early in the morning. He will use the opportunity to try and prevail on people still remaining in the camp to go back to their homes," said an official.

Diplomats invited to join the tour said it was a belated attempt to calm intense international condemnation.

"It's a damage limitation exercise but it has come too late, too late for the world to understand," one diplomat said.

The visit was announced hours after Vice-President and military chief Major-General Paul Kagame rejected demands for free passage to neighboring Zaire by 1,000 Hutus trapped in the camp.

"Free passage is absolutely nonsense. The government will find other ways of resolving the problem," said the 38-year-old general, who led Rwanda's Tutsi-dominated army to victory against the Hutu majority last year.

Kagame, breaking his silence over the weekend slaughter, told Reuters in an interview he would not, however, take military action against them.

Asked if the "other ways" included military measures against those in the camp, mostly women and children, Kagame said force was out of the question.

"I don't see any military action against them. That is out. We are carefully weighing other options," he said without elaborating.

The Hutus are the remnants of up to 80,000 residents at the

camp, where UN officials say thousands were killed by Kagame's troops and in stampedes on Saturday.

Those remaining, including hardliners who supported last year's massacres, are demanding free passage to neighboring Zaire. Also in the camp are women and children desperately short of food and water.

UN officials fear the women and children are being held as human shields by young men who expect to be arrested or killed if they surrender.

Kagame reiterated his government's stand that most of the Hutus at Kibeho camp were well-armed criminal elements trying to escape justice.

"It is reasonable to believe that there are arms in the Kibeho camp," he added.

UN officials and aid workers said Kagame's stand ended any hope the Hutus had of joining hundreds of thousands of their tribesmen now living in sprawling refugee camps in east Zaire.

S. African day marred by scandals

JOHANNESBURG (Reuters) — Newspapers and television screens were full of smiling people as South Africa celebrated its first year of democracy, but two grim faces soured this week's party.

They were Winnie Mandela and Allan Boesak, senior members of the ruling African National Congress who have spent much of the last 12 months fighting charges of corruption or misconduct.

While President Nelson Mandela eventually acted firmly with the indiscretions of his estranged wife, firing her from her post as deputy minister this month, political commentators have criticized his handling of the Boesak case.

The Danish aid organization DanChurch Aid has accused Boesak, ambassador-designate to Geneva before the scandal, of diverting aid funds to his own uses and he is now being investigated by South African police.

A lawyer appointed by Mandela's government to probe the af-

fair, Majunko Gumbi, found there was no evidence of wrongdoing against him.

Deputy President Thabo Mbeki and President Mandela said this meant Boesak's name had been cleared and he could once more be considered for a high diplomatic post.

But Gumbi said: "Let me stress that my report does not say that money was or was not misappropriated. It says that at this stage we have absolutely nothing to go on and for that reason a person is presumed innocent until proven guilty."

The respected daily The Star said in an editorial: "Mbeki's premature clearing of Boesak is indefensible; Mandela's haste to hand him a high diplomatic post is astounding; and both have undermined the course of justice and taken stands that could further embarrass this country."

After Mbeki's statement last weekend clearing Boesak while the police investigation was still in progress, the financial daily

Business Day said the case had become "a public test of the management of the country itself."

"(The Danes) will be left wondering whether South Africa's system of justice and its political morality are any different from those of a banana republic," it said in an editorial.

Political scientist Tom Lodge, an associate professor at the University of the Witwatersrand, said in an assessment of the ANC's first year in office that its consensual style was an obstacle to fighting corruption.

"It makes it extremely reluctant to take the one action that would discourage corruption: dismissal from public office of those suspected of it," Lodge said.

"Whatever the truth of the various charges which have been made against Winnie Mandela, the public spectacle of venal misbehavior among ANC office holders and public servants has become a cause of acute embarrassment to the organization's leadership."

Jospin claims Chirac's policies are contradictory

PARIS (Reuters) — Socialist presidential candidate Lionel Jospin accused conservative favorite Jacques Chirac yesterday of being full of contradictions and said a new mood in France could bring him victory on May 7.

Chirac in turn attacked his rival's qualifications, saying Jospin lacked the experience needed to lead France into the 21st century and had the same platform as President Francois Mitterrand when he first won power in 1981.

Jospin, buoyed by his lead in Sunday's first round of the election and the unconditional backing of the Communist Party, dismissed two opinion polls taken on Monday that put him behind in the final vote with 45 percent to Chirac's 55%.

The former education minister and ex-Socialist party boss said during a visit to the Mediterranean island of Corsica that he felt a new force in France and a popular wave of support could sweep him to victory on May 7.

France, he said, was a divided nation and he was the candidate best able to unite the French. But he conceded that "the political arithmetic" was not favorable.

Chirac agreed he was in a tough fight despite his lead on paper. "A battle is never won in advance. One must fight until the last hour," he told TFI-TV.

Earlier, Jospin seized on a remark by Chirac when he said: "My first concern is to convince the French people to elect me and not to define what I will do after that."

Jospin, accusing Chirac of weighing various ideological approaches solely on the basis of which would be best to unite the right, said voters would be no wiser about his policies after a television duel next Tuesday.

"Even if we knew it on that night, we would not know if that would remain true the following day," he told Radio Monte Carlo. "There have been so many contradictions in Chirac's campaign that one wonders how the French people could trust him."

Chirac denied he had any worries about reuniting the fractured right after his fellow Gaullist, Prime Minister Edouard Balladur, was eliminated in Sunday's vote. "Everyone is there... There is great enthusiasm," he said.

'Spycatcher' author dies

SYDNEY (AP) — Former British intelligence officer Peter Wright, whose best-selling autobiography *Spycatcher* accused security services of plotting to topple a former British government, died yesterday. He was 78.

Wright died at his home in Tasmania of pneumonia, said a spokesman for lawyer Malcolm Turnbull. Turnbull represented Wright in a lengthy court battle when the British government tried and failed to ban *Spycatcher* in Australia. The book was banned in Britain.

Wright retired from Britain's MI5 counterintelligence agency in 1976 after 20 years' service and retired to Australia, where he wrote his memoirs.

His book accused British security services of trying to topple Harold Wilson's 1974-76 Labor Party government, eavesdropping on foreign embassies, bungling cases, stealing documents and plotting to assassinate Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser.

Wright also accused the late MI5 director Sir Roger Hollis of being a Soviet agent, a claim the government said was never substantiated.

Jewish Agency for Israel **World Zionist Organization**
The Directorate and Staff of the National Institutions
extend deepest condolences to **Amira Dotan**
on the death of her husband
YONATAN DOTAN י"ד
Avrum Burg Chairman of the Executive **Mendel Kaplan**
Chairman of the Board of Governors

With great sorrow
we announce the sudden death of
CYRIL HOROWITZ
(Veteran of Machal)
The funeral will take place on Sunday
30th April 1995 at 13:00 p.m.
at Rehovot Cemetery.
A bus will leave for the cemetery from the
residence of the deceased - 22 Herzog St.
Shikun Bayli Tel Aviv at 12:00 p.m.
Ada, Ruth & Naomi

In great sorrow, we announce
the sudden passing of our dear
NORMAN APPLETON
The funeral will take place today, Friday, April 28,
at 3:00 p.m. at Kibbutz Beit Ha'emek.
The family will sit shiva at 11 Hativat Givat St., Ra'anana.

With great sadness, we announce the passing in old age of
the head of our family, our dearly beloved
EDWIN FEIST נ"ה
Mrs. R. Horovitz, sister, London
Susie Rose, daughter
Michael and Erna Feist, son
David and Gitta Feist, son
Elihu and Channa Feist, son
Grandchildren and great-grandchildren,
nieces and nephews
Shiva at the home of the deceased,
9 Rehov Chida, Bayit Vagan, Jerusalem,
Tel. 02-421006.

With deep sorrow we announce the passing of
JOSZI GRUNSCHLAG י"ד
The funeral will take place today at 11:00 a.m.,
at the Yarkon Cemetery
The mourners will meet at the gate.
His wife: **Sidi**
His daughters: **Ronny Gilboa**
Dana Cohen
and their families

The consecration of the tombstone of our beloved
Rabbi GERSHON MEIR ENGEL
will take place on Tuesday,
May 2, 1995 (2 Iyar 5755)
at 4:30 p.m. at the New Hadera Cemetery,
followed by Siyum Mishnayot and Mincha at the
Tolkin Residence, Kfar Haro'eh
The Family

News in Focus

FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 1995

Scandal highlights power of media families

The bugging affair raises doubts about magnates' ties with the public, politicians and even reporters, Liat Collins writes

THIS week's detention of the editors of the country's two largest dailies gave a new meaning to the words "bad press." Reporters lost faith in their bosses; the public lost faith in the papers.

About the only thing they all agreed on was that when the media, instead of conducting their own investigations, become the focus of police inquiries, it's bad news for everyone.

The public response might have been greater had more people been fully aware of the size of the business empires concerned. Apart from their major dailies, magazines, supplements and local papers, the two companies have many other business interests, from record companies and advertising to real estate. They are both also part-owners in cable companies and Channel 2 franchisees.

It is the fact that most of the country's media are in the hands of three families - Mozes (*Yediot Aharonot*), Nimrodi (*Ma'ariv*) and Schocken (*Ha'aretz*) - which most concerns Dr. Dan Caspi, senior lecturer in communications at the Open University.

"It's frightening to think what might happen because of the degree of power they have," he said. He noted one result could be a corporation conquering the market as a rival falls. "And that is very, very dangerous because it will give one corporation unprecedented control."

"It's at times like these that we must appreciate the value of public media [mainly the Israel Broadcasting Authority and Educational Television]. Despite their weaknesses, the public media play by different rules from the commercial media and answer to a supervisory body [the state comptroller]."

Another result of the affair might be weaker relations between politicians and the press, he said. "It has shown them [the press] that they are not as strong as they think, and in this sense it's been a virtual knockout by a cer-



tain politician," Caspi said. Although he refrained from mentioning him by name, Caspi was clearly referring to Police Minister Moshe Shahal, who has pursued the case intensively while most of his fellow politicians have remained unusually quiet.

Many MKs refused to speak about the affair this week and the comments by those who did talk were restrained. Caspi noted that as long as no charges have been filed, politicians are still scared to act. "With 18 months to the elections and less than a year to the party primaries, it will be a brave politician who risks his relationship with influential media conglomerates to restrict their ownership," he said, noting that such legislation stands only a slim chance of passing before the election anyway.

One of the few MKs who agreed to speak to reporters was Likud MK Tzahi Hanegbi. Asked why so many politicians refused to talk on the subject, he said: "I understand them. These are influential people of high social standing, and a large number of us [politicians] have known them for many years. We meet at

parties and social affairs and mix in the same circles." Meretz MK Dedi Zucker, who is chairman of the Knesset Law Committee, announced Tuesday he would initiate legislation that would force any editor indicted on criminal charges to resign.

"It's an attempt to defend society from what's going on in some of the media. I don't think we can leave such a crucial matter in the hands of the free market. There has been such a serious crisis in the press that the public has lost faith, and this faith must be re-

gained," he said, noting that the existing regulations concerning the press date from the Mandate. "It's about time they were changed. We need blue-and-white legislation."

But for all his brave words, Zucker's proposal calls for nothing more radical than preventing a charged criminal from running a newspaper. It is a far cry from dealing with the problems arising from the mammoth concentration of media power in the hands of just three families. It is also a noncontroversial stand supported by the Press Council (the media watchdog appointed by journalists) and the National Federation of Israel Journalists. Zucker, like most of his colleagues, avoids openly discussing any hard-hitting legislation.

ACADEMICS WARNED of the centralization of media control in a few hands three years ago when the race for Channel 2 franchises began, but the politicians were not in favor of legislation then either, Caspi noted. "The legislators did restrict the amount of control newspapers could have in Channel 2, but they didn't say 'You can't have any hand in the electronic media at all,' because the newspapers asked, 'Who are you to decide?' and noted that they were subject to journalistic ethical principles in a way that businessmen might not be," said Justice Ministry me-

L.C.

Yediot Aharonot journalist Gabi Bron also stressed that the arrests should not reflect on the reporters, but said his professional reputation suffered when Ma'ariv's Nimrodi was first detained. "I have my clients - the public, and the people I have to confront and criticize as part of my work - and this harmed my integrity."

Bron said he did not believe his editor Moshe Vardi was guilty. But what would happen if one of his superiors were convicted? "I might have to reassess my attitude toward the people who are at the top of the hierarchy," he said.

What hurts Bron most is the crisis the scandal has caused in the news profession. "Our duty now is to keep working as before, to be as objective as we can and not allow emotions to interfere with what we do. If anybody is found guilty, the public must remember that only an individual has been convicted. That way, the press will not have lost its position as one of the foundations of democracy."

L.C.

She also said future legislation will be difficult to formulate. "It's very complex. There are questions like: Can a publisher also be a businessman and an editor? Can a businessman control a newspaper, and if not, who can? Somebody has to control it, after all. And it is a private business."

She suggested revising the Press Regulations which have not been changed since 1948. "We must adapt them to suit the present day. At the same time, we must consider how to reach maximum dispersal of control and how to bring about a separation - like that which exists for banks - between the economic interests of the newspaper owners and the use of the information which reaches its reporters."

She differentiated between two types of phone tapping. In one, a newspaper owner or senior manager eavesdrops on his rival. In the other, he listens in on confidential information discussed by reporters from a rival staff or even his own. It is not yet clear which type it was, but Lachman-Messer noted that the second type is far more serious. "Reporters get information so they can do their job, which is to satisfy the public's right to know. Therefore, if this happened - and I really hope it didn't - it would be like using insider information."

"In the same way as a broker would be guilty of using inside information for trading, here the editor would be using information - attained to help the public form its opinion - in order to promote his own economic interests or other purposes, such as gaining political or social power."

ALTHOUGH GLOOMY, the news is not all bad, said Tel Aviv University Law Faculty Prof. Amos Shapira, who is also deputy president of the Press Council. In an interview with Israel Television he said: "We are reacting, as usual, in extremes, saying it's either all black or [all] white. I don't think it's a black day for the press - it's obviously not a good day either - but we must maintain a sense of proportion. The Israeli press hasn't collapsed and disappeared."

Shapira said this is a suspected case of industrial espionage, which could be a result of the transformation of the Israeli media from public/political presses to private businesses. "It might be one of the prices attached to the privatization and capitalization of the Israeli economy, but it shouldn't be seen as the end of the free press in Israel."

Staffers fear damage to reputations

MOST journalists are at a loss for words when it comes to discussing the police investigations of their editors.

Sara Friedman, chairwoman of the Israel Federation of Journalists and a Ma'ariv employee, would speak only in the name of the federation and even then kept her comments as brief as possible. "It's very serious, and we're calling on anyone concerned to immediately resign if charged," she said. "But these are private businesses and we can't demand anyone's dismissal."

Most Ma'ariv reporters refused to talk on the record. "We all crack jokes about the situation because that's our way of coping. But the atmosphere at the paper is really unpleasant these days, and some people are very worried about the future," said one.

Others said they had been compared to the people being investigated in the Histadrut scandal. "In the public eye we've all become one corrupt mass, which is really unfair," a senior reporter said.

VE DAY

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY WILL BE COMMEMORATED ON

SUNDAY MAY 7 AT 1600 HRS AT THE COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES CEMETERY IN RAMLEH

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Dr. Judith Isroff: - Conflict Resolution Specialist
Dr. Nuwar Massalha MK: - Deputy Health Minister
Dr. Yossi Olmert: - Middle East Expert
Mr. Benny Temkin MK:

Moderator: - Mr. David Mitnick, The Jerusalem Post

SUNDAY, APRIL 30 at 8 p.m.
BEIT DANIEL, 62 Bnei Dan St., Tel Aviv
Admission Free Refreshments
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Free entrance to the exhibition

YOUNG ISRAEL OF Kfar Ganim
Rehov Feldman, Petah Tikva

Annual Public Shiur in Memory of Rabbi Dr. Getzel Ellinson

On Sunday, April 30, 1995, at the Beit Knesset
6 Rehov Feldman, Petah Tikva
at 8:00 p.m.

WOMEN'S OBLIGATION IN PROCREATION

by Rabbi Dr. Ben Zion Rozenfeld
Department of Jewish History, Bar-Ilan University

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Members and friends are invited to a Luncheon Meeting

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at Beit Wizo, 38 King David Blvd., Tel Aviv

Guest Speaker
Mr. Moshe Shachal, MK
Minister of Police

Subject:
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Cocktails will be served from 12:30 p.m.
Members - NIS 40 Guests - NIS 50
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between 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (Sunday - Thursday).

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

MINISTRY OF IMMIGRANT ABSORPTION

Retraining Course - Radiology

The Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption announce registration for a radiology retraining course. The course will be held at the School for Radiology and Imaging, Sheba Medical Center, Tel Hashomer, and will last 18 months.

- Acceptance Requirements:
1. Immigrant doctors who do not hold a license to practice medicine in Israel.
 2. Immigration to Israel after February 1, 1991.
 3. Command of Hebrew at Ulpan Bet standard.
 4. Age up to 40.
 5. Preference will be given to doctors with a background in internal medicine, surgery, pediatrics, or radiology.

Registration, which will open on May 7 and close on June 1, 1995, will be in the old emergency room, the Training Center, Sheba Medical Center, 8:30 to 11:00 a.m., Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday.

Applicants should bring:

1. Their diploma from a medical school abroad, and work book - both in the form of a notarized translation.
2. Their identity card.

Candidates who meet the requirements will be invited to an acceptance examination. Those accepted for the course are entitled to an income allowance, in accordance with the criteria of the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption.

Further particulars may be obtained from Mr. Danny Hirschmann or Ms. Rachel Bachar, Tel. 03-5302681.



According to the report, Kessar's '92 campaign charged expenses of NIS 41,823 to Culture and Education Enterprises Printing Department, a Histadrut firm. (Hecker)

A report that spells out deception

Histadrut comptroller Nir Avnon's report documenting fund misappropriation singles out Transport Minister Yisrael Kessar, Bill Hutman reports

At first glance, Report 150/95 by Histadrut Comptroller Nir Avnon looks like a short, insignificant document. But beyond its front cover lies a grand tale of deceit and power that keeps your interest to the last page.

Don't go to your nearest bookstore to get a copy, or for that matter even to the publications department of the labor federation. You won't find a copy anywhere.

The few existing copies are closely guarded by senior Histadrut officials and police investigators who got them from Avnon.

The *Jerusalem Post* was shown a copy. It reveals accusations of criminal action by senior Histadrut officials. But a word of caution is in order: Sources involved in the Histadrut fraud investigation say the report must be seen in the overall context of the case.

Police have confiscated numerous documents from Histadrut offices and received material from the labor federation comptroller and legal adviser.

Report 150/95 does give a rare glimpse at exactly what types of wrongdoing are being investigated by police concerning the 1992 Labor Party Knesset primary and last year's Histadrut election.

However, the report singles out only one of the major suspects, Transport Minister Yisrael Kessar. One must remember that similar findings against others—in particular former Histadrut

chairman Haim Haberfeld and Labor MK Avi Yehzekel—also exist.

Sources close to the case say that, in general, with just a change of names and dates, the tale told in the report about the apparently illegal practices of the Kessar campaign may be true also of the campaigns run by Haberfeld and Yehzekel.

WHAT EXACTLY did the comptroller find out about the Kessar campaign? Page 1 of the report says:

"In January and February of 1992 the Kessar campaign charged expenses totaling NIS 41,823 to the Culture and Education Enterprises Printing Department [a Histadrut company]."

Mifalei Tarbut V'chinuch, as the company is known in Hebrew, is one of the major focuses of the Histadrut fraud case. The company provided a wide range of services, from printing flyers to organizing gatherings, for Labor Party officials.

There was nothing illegal in hiring the company. The problems only arose when it came time to pay for its services. Instead of the candidates paying, in many instances the Histadrut treasury picked up the tab.

On March 10, 1992, Dov Litz, Kessar's campaign chief, met with Uzi Fassa, director of the Culture and Education Enterprises Printing Department, Yehzekel Ovadiya, its manager, and Histadrut treasury finance-department director Ya'acov Michaeli, to discuss the NIS 41,823 bill for services rendered.

According to the report, the men agreed to two methods of transferring payment from Kessar's campaign to the Histadrut. One method involved using monies earmarked for various Histadrut award ceremonies and demonstrations to cover the costs; the second called for fictitious receipts to be drawn up showing how the company had provided services not to the Kessar campaign, but to various Histadrut departments.

The officials were able to raise more than they needed to pay the Kessar campaign debt, according to the report. Some NIS 30,081 was taken from Histadrut coffers, ostensibly for "costs of holding a demonstration"; NIS 19,270 was raised by issuing inflated advances for two awards ceremonies; and NIS 13,612.70 was paid out for a demonstration that was canceled.

The Kessar bill was just under NIS 42,000. With these three moves, over NIS 60,000 was found to cover it. No explanation is given in the report about where the surplus went.

The award ceremony advances were taken from the budget for the 1992 annual Mordechai Namir Award and Histadrut Service Award. The four officials involved in this step took care to cover their tracks. All their actions were "documented"—that is, they are recorded as legitimate and part of the normal work of their departments.

On March 18, just a week after their meeting, Fassa, in a seemingly harmless letter, requested from finance department director Michaeli some NIS 35,400 as an advance on the Service Award ceremony.

"As you know we are involved in producing the events of the Service Award for 1992. For the purpose of holding the events, I am requesting for the productions and events department of Culture and Education Enterprises Ltd. an advance of NIS 35,400. Yours, Uzi Fassa."

On March 30, the Histadrut treasury issued a Bank Hapoalim check to Fassa's company for NIS 35,400, with the invoice noting the money was for the prize ceremony.

No mention was made of the fact that much of the money wasn't going for the ceremony, but rather for posters, flyers, and other materials for the Kessar campaign, according to the report.

The paper trail was harder to cover in the bills for work the Enterprises company hired out to private companies, as these companies (about 20 in number) had issued invoices stating specifically that the work was carried out for the Kessar campaign.

At their meeting, the four Histadrut officials came up with a solution for this problem which reflects their hutzpah, say sources close to the case: Contact the companies and ask them to issue new invoices, showing only that the work was done for the Enterprises firm.

"These guys were clearly not at all concerned that anyone was going to check closely into what they were doing," comments one source.

But three years later, and after Labor lost control of the Histadrut, three of the four—Michaeli, Ovadiya, and Litz—have become major suspects in the Histadrut fraud case.

The fourth, Fassa, was also a major suspect. But he has turned state's witness and is consequently not being charged in the case.

The findings in this report in the view of the comptroller point to suspicions of serious criminal activity by persons outside and within Culture and Education Enterprises Ltd., Avnon writes in the conclusion of the report.

"The findings arouse suspicion that activities carried out as part of a private election campaign were paid for by the Histadrut," he adds.

Avnon does not mince his words about the severity of the wrongdoing, nor does he stop with the officials named in the report. He also implicates their bosses:

"Company workers who took part in the above-mentioned activities say they were following direct orders from senior officials in the Histadrut," he writes.

Just how "senior" the involved officials are will become clear in the coming weeks, as police begin to wrap up their investigation of the nation's giant labor federation.

One last summit before election frenzy sets in

PM Yitzhak Rabin is following the tradition of taking his troubles to the US; but the visit may not bring him any closer to a deal with Syria, Alon Pinkas writes

THEY call it "Avriel's Second Law."

Ehud Avriel, the legendary 1950s mover and shaker, was dispatched to the US while serving as director-general of the Prime Minister's Office under David Ben-Gurion.

"Why are you going to the US again?" someone asked.

"There are some things that need to be done," Avriel answered.

"But there's trouble at home," the questioner said.

"There isn't a single problem in Israel that can't be solved by going to America," Avriel replied in his heavy German accent.

Prime Minister and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin's trip to Washington next week appears to be following Avriel's Second Law, something Rabin himself has perfected over the years. If anything has changed, it's that Washington, DC, has superseded New York as center arena for Israeli leaders intent on dealing with their problems.

For both Rabin and President Bill Clinton, the meetings they will hold—one working meeting and a joint appearance before the annual conference of the American-Israeli Public Affairs Committee—may constitute their last important summit before both countries enter election-year frenzy. For Clinton, the meeting can help beef up electoral support among US Jews. Clinton is considered a consistently and adamantly pro-Israel president, who won 75 percent of the Jewish vote last election and is likely to keep it.

A Rabin-Assad handshake on the White House lawn would do wonders for the tarnished foreign-policy image of an ailing administration. Clinton's only problem is that, of the three hand-shakers in this hypothetical photo, two seem reluctant.

A senior US diplomat describes the upcoming visit as "vital" for the future of Israeli-Syrian talks.

"The US always maintained that real progress will only be made with the direct involvement of President Clinton... [Syrian-Israeli] talks are currently at a crossroads... that is why the Clinton-Rabin meeting next week is very important, perhaps more than Rabin's previous trips," says the source.

WHILE IT may be an exaggeration to define the Rabin-Clinton meeting as "vital," it is no doubt important in the context of the seemingly stalled talks with Syria.

It is not clear whether Rabin would like to present the Israeli electorate in 1996 with a peace package with Syria that would

inevitably include relinquishing most or all of the Golan Heights.

He may benefit from delivering two peace agreements, one with Jordan and one with Syria, but he may also be surprised by the opposition to such an agreement.

Even less clear is Hafez Assad's position. Though he is rhetorically committed to peace, Assad seems to be in no rush to achieve it, nor is he particularly outspoken about the importance of the Golan to Syria.

He perceives the leadership of the militant, unyielding Arab world as no less of an interest; and in pursuit of this interest, maintaining futile negotiations outweigh the benefits of cutting a deal.

Rabin will arrive in Washington during cherry-blossom season. But however promising the blossoms are there, one cannot forget that the cherry trees in Lebanon bloom under the watchful eyes of Syrian soldiers. Lebanon is no less a component of any "security arrangements" as demilitarization or reduction of forces on the Golan.

The main point of contention in achieving peace with Syria, Rabin will tell Clinton, is the security package. The US believes that progress has been made. Rabin and Assad may respectfully beg to differ.

OFFICIAL Syria-watchers and intelligence analysts in the IDF and elsewhere in the intelligence community believe that talks suffered a setback after the December 1994 meeting between Syrian Chief of General Staff Gen. Hikmat Shihabi and then-CDG Lt. Gen. Ehud Barak.

Assad was clearly disappointed by Barak's lecture to Shihabi on Israel's security needs. He hoped for an understanding concerning some kind of symmetry between both countries' security requirements, but never got it," says a senior army source.

Rabin frequently stresses that a settlement with Syria is a four-legged table. One leg represents the security arrangements, the second is withdrawal and borders, the third is normalization, and the fourth is the timetable.

While Clinton may urge Rabin to start a comprehensive discussion on all four "legs" in an attempt to prevent further stalemate, Rabin will clarify that the first leg must be firmly constructed. He will find sympathetic ears in the new Republican Congress, which dislikes Assad but ironically would benefit from the reluctance he is displaying, for it may deny a Democratic president the foreign policy success he needs to boost his re-election chances.

Ministry of Health
Spokesperson's Bureau

Volunteers - For Inspecting Nursing Homes

The Minister of Health recently set up a special unit which will make surprise visits of nursing homes for the elderly.

The purpose of the unit is to ensure that the institutions maintain a satisfactory and respectable standard of care, according to the criteria set by the Ministry of Health.

The volunteer unit will be made up of retired doctors, nurses and para-medical personnel.

Additional volunteers are needed
so that the unit can be expanded.

Those interested in volunteering for the unit may apply to the Ministry of Health, Monitoring Division, 2 Ben Tabai St., Jerusalem 91010.

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Our congratulations and best wishes to
Professor Shlomo Stern

on your election as
President of the Israel Heart Society
and to

Dr. Zvi Vered
on your election as
Secretary of the Israel Heart Society

The Staff of
the Helden Department of Cardiology
Bikur Cholim Hospital, Jerusalem

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Walter Frankl combines over 50 years' gardening experience and thousands of questions raised by readers of his column in *The Post Gardener's Corner*, in this year-round book devoted entirely to gardening in Israel. Chapters are arranged month-by-month and cover all gardening possibilities as well as special subjects including roses, herbs, vegetables, balcony and roof gardens, helpful tips, illustrations and more. 252 pages including index. Hardcover.

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MUNICIPALITY OF RAANANA
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POST**

The Municipality of Raanana,
The Jerusalem Post and ESRA present
VIEWPOINTS
with a difference:

Lois Unger will read her own poetry,
followed by a 15 min. musical interlude,
following this an animated playreading of
"TOO LONG AN AUTUMN" by Jimmy Chinn,
will be performed by the Sharon Players.
The playreading will be followed by the
audience's viewpoints on the
social issues raised by the play.

VENUE: Yad Leboraim, 147 Maza Street,
Razharia

DATE: Sunday, April 30

TIME: 8:30 p.m.

TICKETS: NIS 15 per person

רענונה עיריית ראננה

مكتبات الأصيل

Concern beyond the call of duty

The Israel Embassy in the US is drawing fire for using heavy-handed tactics to suppress debate on the peace process, Hillel Kuttler reports from Washington

NEXT weekend 150 Christians and Jews from across the US will assemble in Washington for a conference in support of Israel.

Scheduled speakers include members of Congress, former government officials, and Middle East analysts. But the Israel Embassy will not send any representatives because it says the conference's speakers include Christian missionaries.

The event's organizers dispute this assertion and accuse the embassy of manufacturing a false cover for its non-participation.

Embassy officials, they say, have actively tried to eliminate from the program those speakers who take a hard line on US relations with the PLO and the potential stationing of American troops on the Golan Heights.

The brouhaha is the latest in a series concerning what some observers call an unwarranted Israeli intrusion in the discussion of those matters by Americans.

Officials of Jewish organizations and congressional staffers point to anecdotal evidence over the past year which they say illustrates how Israeli officials, from Ambassador Itamar Rabinovich on down, seek to suppress discussion of those issues.

The embassy, they say, has warned that such discussions could endanger the peace process. But, they add, the embassy has crossed the line between lobbying and inappropriately applying pressure.

Few would allow their names to be used in this article, fearing a backlash from the embassy.

"I don't mind if they try to influence or persuade, but they're very threatening," said the former head of a major national organization. "The embassy doesn't realize that debate can sometimes be healthy, can help them. They need not look on people who don't agree with them 100 percent as evil."

A current high-ranking official of a pro-Israel group said that at the embassy "there's a tremendous sensitivity to dissenting groups."

Rabinovich denied that he or his staff have used heavy-handed tactics.

"We don't exert pressure and we certainly are not in the business of muzzleing anyone," he said. "But we certainly are in the business of making our position known."

Rabinovich also denied that the embassy was overreacting to dissent, but admitted it answers when provoked.

"We have not responded to views, we've responded to actions with regard to, to the peace process or matters of aid... [by those who] presume to know better than us. We cannot be indifferent," he said.

But a Senate committee staffer said the embassy "has been fairly aggressive in shutting down debate. The ambassador and other people at the embassy have called and used a variety of arguments — and intimidation, even — to keep this [the Golan troop issue] from being aired. ... I certainly have gotten the message that we shouldn't be engaged in debate, even though I can't say I've been intimidated directly."



Ambassador Itamar Rabinovich denies that the Israeli Embassy in the US is overreacting to dissent on political issues. (David Rubinger)

being aired. ... I certainly have gotten the message that we shouldn't be engaged in debate, even though I can't say I've been intimidated directly."

In some cases, the embassy's fingerprints aren't on the smoking gun, but those of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee are.

Examples include:

• Last summer's proposed Senate amendment to debate the US troops issue now. The embassy strongly opposes such a debate, warning that it could undermine negotiations with Damascus: the administration holds the same view.

Under heavy pressure from both the embassy and AIPAC, Republican Sen. Thad Cochran withdrew sponsorship of the motion.

Republican Sen. Malcolm Wallop took it up instead and the amendment was roundly defeated.

□ In February, Israel's consul-general in New York, Colette Avital, urged the sponsors of a pro-peace process event not to give a forum to a scheduled speaker, retired four-star Gen. John Foss. Foss, along with former Pentagon officials Frank Gaffney and Doug Feith, arranged public and private meetings in Capitol Hill in the past year with a view to preventing a US troop deployment on the Golan.

David P. Steinmann, president of the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs (JINSA), later wrote Avital that the New York audience boomed when her letter was read, and that the group was "offended by an effort to prevent them from discussing a subject they care about."

• AIPAC — some say at the embassy's urging — pressured members of both the House and Senate last September not to attend a Capitol Hill luncheon meeting featuring Foss, Feith and Gaffney.

• When that trio scheduled a January meeting with freshmen senators, Rabinovich tried to prevent the meeting from taking place. When that failed, he then pressed the senators for equal time, which was granted at a later date.

• Sources familiar with JINSA, a hawkish defense group which believes that a US troop presence on the Golan must be debated openly before any commitment is made, say the embassy has threatened to cease cooperating with the organization on its annual program that brings retired US generals to Israel for high-level briefings.

JINSA director Tom Neumann denied that the threat had been made, but said: "I think the implications could have been there — it's a matter of interpretation."

A FORMER Capitol Hill staffer said of the Golan issue: "What people like myself find most egregious [is that] while the embassy has every right to communicate its views to the US administration, it steps over the line when it tries to stifle debate on matters of US policy — where Congress has a constitutional responsibility to oversee US policy."

Another former staffer said that Ra-

binovich "has gone above and beyond the call of duty... in putting pressure and lobbying members not to speak out and to support the peace process."

Free speech issues aside, analysts in Washington believe that the embassy's efforts are misplaced.

"This is a very supportive administration and Congress, but Israel is not taking advantage of it," the former organization head said.

"It's unusual for the embassy to spend its time and effort to come down on people who're supporters of Israel... They're not trying to enlist support, so much as they're trying to coerce support," he said.

In the latest incident, the upcoming Washington conference of the Kansas City-based Voices United for Israel, the embassy told organizers it would not participate in the program if it remained as planned.

In negotiations over the past two months, the embassy's interreligious affairs attaché, Avi Granot, reportedly told organizers the embassy was troubled by the political slant of the event and suggested several alternative speakers. The organizers agreed to consider the idea.

Israel was concerned that the conference, "instead of demonstrating sympathy for Israel, became opposition to the peace process," an embassy official said.

"I can't determine who participates and who doesn't," he said. "I can only say that I can't participate with this focus."

Wishing to satisfy the embassy, Esther Levens, the organization's co-chairman, said the organization considered making some of the suggested changes. But Granot still objected to the presence on the program of four people: Gaffney; Feith; Richard Helman, the president of the Christians' Israel Public Action Campaign; and Yechiel Leiter, chairman of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza.

At that point, the organization threw up its hands. "The final straw was when they asked us to remove the four speakers," Levens said.

"I'm sick of this, I don't mind telling you. We're trying so hard to help Israel, [but] I won't take a bum rap for Israel trying to control an American conference."

A time for every scandal: All the news that fits, they print

WHAT a relief for the politicians. The messengers started shooting themselves.

To everything there is a season. After the religious party scandals, the Likud bickering, the Labor-bungled peace process, the Histadrut fiasco, it was inevitable — a media scandal.

The headlines were so huge this week that some politicians said with a chuckle they were surprised Yediot Aharonot and Ma'ariv didn't come out with special wiretap holiday editions. Indeed, the police roundup of the editors of the country's two biggest newspapers left little room for anything else.

Even the Histadrut corruption investigation took a back seat to the media's own grand drama.

Rebbitzin Miriam Levinger's ritual haul to court by police is always good for a colorful front-page splash in the tabloids. But this week she almost disappeared into small print. As for Aryeh Deri — a magnifying glass and patience might have located the on-going trial of the great macher of our time.

Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert

allegedly got away with eating at a nonkosher restaurant during Pessah. Not merely nonkosher-for-Pessah, but nonkosher, period.

Bread, pork and seafood, a forlorn headline tried to shriek, but wilted swiftly along with Olmert's limp denial. In the good old days, Shulamit Aloni would have been drummed out of the Education Ministry for lesser sins.

But politicians should be wary of getting too snug while the media's dirty linen flaps in the breeze. Turn, turn turn; there's a time for every scandal under heaven. Like next week.

RIDE OF THE COSSACK
What a peaceful life it must be in the Tsomet Party of Rafael "Rafal" Eitan since the three Yit'ud Knesset nags bolted the stable to run their own race.

Wrong. Rumbblings about financial shenanigans and opposition to Rafal's leadership have only increased since the Yit'ud split.

Tsomet's tribunal is to rule on Sunday whether to kick out six central-committee members who



Likud Chairman Netanyahu: Hungry for the Liberal Party's assets. (Israel Sun)

oppose Rafal. It's a field court-martial, claimed Dr. Martin Sherman, once Tsomet's secretary-general and today its persona non grata.

Sherman charged Rafal and his henchman, party secretary Doron Shmueli, with byzantine plotting to oust political rivals or

THE WEEK THAT WAS

MICHAEL YUDELMAN



Moshe Nissim: Seems to enjoy dangling NIS 120m. before Bibi's eyes. (Nitzan Shorer)

indeed anyone questioning the leader's personality cult. It goes far beyond office politics, he said, citing head chop-



Dr. Martin Sherman: Accuses Tsomet's Rafael Eitan of byzantine plotting.

ping, night courts, telephone tapping, complaints to police about rivals, the transfer of voters from branch to branch to ensure election results and the closure of branches not run by yes-men.

More seriously, Sherman alleged the plot extends to misusing confidential material gleaned

from the IDF computer. The northern district attorney is now investigating an allegation passed on by military police that Rafal threatened a party member to reveal such personal information unless he quits Tsomet immediately.

Sherman said Rafal has also exerted pressure on him. "First he accused me of financial irregularities, then he threatened to reveal details about me which would cause me damage I couldn't even begin to imagine. Big mistake. He simply doesn't understand the Anglo-Saxon mentality. He is a bully who thinks anyone who doesn't act like a Ukrainian Cossack is a wimp." Sherman is determined to fight back in court, should the tribunal expel him next week. Its members usually put Rafal's wishes into practice, he added.

Rafal is losing his grip; he's cut off from reality, Sherman said. One reality is that Tsomet is plummeting in public opinion. Last year the polls predicted 15 mandates for the party. Now it is down to five to eight. Rafal was showing 34 percent in polls for prime minister, Sherman said.

Recently, that was down to 11 percent.

Tsomet spokeswoman Ayital Salomon rejected all Sherman's charges but was convinced the tribunal will rule Sherman outside party ranks.

"This is not the High Court of Justice," she said. "The judges are [biased] in favor of the majority. Whoever undermines it, as Sherman is accused of doing, may be expelled, according to Tsomet regulations."

Salomon said Tsomet members demanding Sherman's expulsion have had enough of his acting against the party. "You can't be a party member and at the same time go against it. If he doesn't like it, let him leave and find a more suitable place."

A DAINTY DISH

The Likud and Liberal parties merged in 1988 after years of legal tangles and bickering. The former Liberals remain the party's spoiled brats. They doggedly refuse to hand over the former Liberal Party's assets and properties, which are estimated to be worth a cool NIS 120 million.

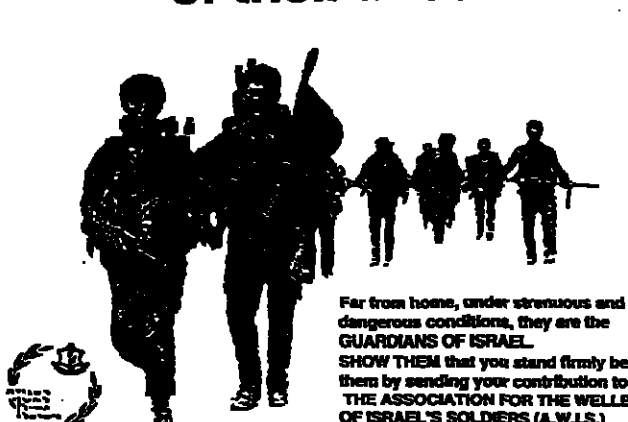
Mimim NIS 120 million! What a mouth-watering temptation for the debt-ridden Likud. Isn't that a dainty dish to set before the king?

At countless meetings with Likud Chairman Benjamin Netanyahu, ex-Liberal MK Moshe Nissim dangles the golden morsel before his hungry eyes, and then yanks it back.

Likud's tribunal this week began earnestly debating leadership's demands that Liberals transfer the goodies to the emaciated Likud. Nissim insists he will do no such thing without serious negotiations, for the assets "will be swallowed up" in the maw of the hungry beast.

Nobody will admit to bad dreams in the Likud. But one of them undoubtedly stars the demon David Levy leaving the party and being joined by leading ex-Liberals. And all that lovely loot? Time to wake up in a cold sweat.

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Tendentious reading and baseless charges

EYE ON THE MEDIA

DAVID BAR-ILAN

WHEN a newspaper article is misunderstood, the fault is usually the writer's. Daily papers should be "reader friendly," their columns and stories clear and direct.

But occasionally one comes across what can only be termed tendentious reading, a deliberate refusal to understand plain English. The following reader's letter from Benny Weinberger is a case in point:

"The Eye on the Media column of April 14 sets new records for hypocrisy, even for a newspaper already over-saturated with it. While zealously counting seconds of air-time accorded to government and opposition spokespeople on TV channels 1 and 2 ... David Bar-Ilan condescendingly suggests that those responsible for the discrepancy between the allotted screen times should be 'drummed out of the profession' for 'exploitation of innocence.'"

"As Executive Editor of The Jerusalem Post, Mr. Bar-Ilan is responsible for precisely the same type of 'exploitation.' The JP is frequently guilty of biased and one-sided news reporting, with news copy written from a decidedly right-wing slant, and with headlines and articles that supposedly support the paper's editorial line often given prominence beyond their true value."

"Op-Ed space in the Post is given over almost exclusively to anti-government opinions and opposition spokespeople, with

the very occasional inclusion of an article by a middle-of-the-road center-left writer. Hypocrisy is also rife in the editorial column. For example, a column of a few months ago attacked police violence against the right-wing 'Women in Green' while ignoring similar violence (documented in video by Israeli and foreign news teams) by border police against the Palestinian and left-wing Israeli protesters at the El-Khader site."

"Perhaps worst of all, even Eye on the Media itself is prone to paranoid one-sidedness, as in the first part of the column of April 14. In this column, writer Amos Oz is viciously attacked for writing an article stating correctly (although somewhat tactlessly) that Hamas and the Israeli Right have the same goals vis-à-vis the peace process. Mr. Bar-Ilan found it appropriate to throw at Mr. Oz the serious accusation of blood libel, while on the other hand the Post seems to have no problem with the slanderous and offensive outpourings by opposition members which implicitly or explicitly blame the prime minister for the deaths of terror victims."

"A one-sided Op-Ed page is not as serious an 'exploitation' as biased news reporting. However, as Mr. Bar-Ilan finds it relevant to attack both in Eye on the Media, he should put his own house in order first, on both counts, or consider drumming himself out of the profession."

WEINBERGER's first charge is clearly the result of a reading-comprehension problem. The column made no connection between the time allotted to government and opposition spokesmen on TV and the "exploitation of innocence." The "exploitation" referred to the cynical use in a TV news-magazine program of settlers' children under 10. This is a violation of journalistic ethics and a good reason to drum the culprits out of the profession.

Weinberger also accuses the Post of news reporting with a decidedly right-wing slant, but without providing examples. The paper occasionally gets complaints of news slanting, mostly about headlines and captions that are said to be slanted to the left. But almost no one has produced a valid example.

The charge that the paper editorially attacks police brutality only when the police abuse right-wing demonstrators is patently false. Editorials on police brutality virtually always stress that the police have been just as ill behaved at Peace Now demonstrations. (The El-Khader incident was not a peaceful demonstration.) Only the most recent editorial on the subject focused exclusively on the unique, inexplicable attention the police seem to be

paying the Women in Green.

Nothing betrays the letter's tendentiousness more than the charge that the Post's op-ed space is given almost exclusively to antigovernment opinions. The Post is the only paper here whose opinion pages are balanced with mathematical precision. While it is technically impossible to balance opinions every day, the number of writers identified with the government's positions equals or exceeds those identified with the opposition in any given month. For example, in the past month (March 20 to April 20), there were 24 articles by pro-government writers, including Abba Eban, Shlomo Gazit, Gad Ya'acobi, Susan Rofe, Dan Leon, Jon Simons, Teddy Preuss and others. In the same period there were 23 op-ed articles by opposition writers. Others were either neutral or about non-controversial subjects.

ANOTHER LETTER, from Peter Moshe Lahav, focuses on the Eye on the Media column attacking Amos Oz for his New York Times "Hamas-Likud Connection" article. Lahav calls the column hysterical and me a student of Goebbels. (Space does not allow savoring the complete letter.)

What Lahav and Weinberger seem to forget is that Oz himself realized that his article was offensive, or he wouldn't have gone on television to explain that he had meant to attack only the "extremists," not the Likud.

To support Oz's argument, Lahav asserts that since Hamas and the Likud both oppose the Oslo agreement, they are indeed each other's accomplice. (He seems not to realize how much this guilt-by-association charge smacks of McCarthyism. It ignores the fact that the Likud opposes the agreement because it may bring war, while Hamas objects because it may bring peace.)

Lahav's main argument is that since the Likud is unwilling to give the Palestinians "full equality" (that is, the right to vote for the Knesset), it does not want peace, except on a master-slave basis.

This is not the place to debate alternatives to the Oslo agreement, but it is puzzling that no one ever seems to worry about America's democratic integrity because 5 million Puerto Ricans can only vote for local government but not for president or Congress. Nor does anyone consider pre-1962 America a tyranny just because about a million Americans living in the District

of Columbia could not vote in federal elections.

THOSE NUMBERS AGAIN

On March 17, reader Dr. Colin Leci pointed out the egregious and obviously purposeful errors the Financial Times regularly makes in reporting Arab and Israeli casualties.

Dr. Saleh Abdel Jawad of The Centre for Research and Documentation of Palestinian Society at Bir Zeit University challenges Leci's numbers: "Dr. Leci ... declared that the FT recorded an incorrect number of Israeli dead between the period September 9, 1993 to October 19, 1994 and then states, 'the actual number was 97.' Neither Mr. Bar-Ilan [nor Dr. Leci] gives a source for this figure. According to figures circulated by none other than the Government of Israel Press Office the actual number of Israelis killed by Palestinians in the aforementioned period is 81."

"We hope that in future Mr. Bar-Ilan will check the accuracy of his own reports before he continues his crusade against others and that he will remember the old adage 'people in glass houses shouldn't throw stones.'"

The source is a list of 96, not 97, names, dates and description of the killings, culled from news reports, to which Dr. Jawad is welcome.

NOT A FABRICATION
Last week this column carried

an article by Mahmoud Sa'adani, editor of Egypt's weekly Al-Mussawwar.

In Mr. Sa'adani's article, the unnamed editor of The Jerusalem Post was called, inter alia, a stupid Zionist, a Mossad agent and an insolent ass whose father is cursed.

The article also states that this editor insolently warned Mubarak against making a mistake which will force him to "repeat the experience of Abdel Nasser in 1967."

Since I never wrote any such thing, I assumed that the charge was a fabrication and said so. But I was wrong: It was not pure fabrication.

True, the Post's editorials never contained any such "warning." But in an op-ed article published on March 14, Prof. Gerald Steinberg wrote: "Like Nasser and his advisers in 1967, [Mubarak, Mousa and El-Baz] have lost track of reality.... The Egyptians need to be reminded of the events of 1967, and of the dangers of misperception and misjudgment."

In the Egyptian press it would be unthinkable to publish articles which oppose the paper's line.

But after seeing articles by Ariel Sharon and Ahmed Tibi in The Jerusalem Post, Mr. Sa'adani might have been expected to understand that op-ed articles in the free press are not sanctioned by the editor and do not necessarily reflect his views.

Of truth and peace

A VIEW FROM NOV

MOSHE KOHN

THE American Civil War Confederate general, Nathan Bedford Forrest, was apparently not a very admirable American.

One of his victories was the capture of Fort Pillow, Tennessee, whose garrison included a large group of US black troops. According to survivors, Forrest's men massacred many of those blacks after the fort had been surrendered. Later, he was active in the Ku Klux Klan.

But he is universally considered to have been a military genius. One of his victories, at Brice's Cross Roads, Mississippi, was a model for cavalry warfare. Asked for the secret of his victory, he is said to have replied: "To 'git thar fustest with the mostest.'"

Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 16th Edition, however, says that version is erroneous, and cites what it considers the correct one, which the Encyclopedia Britannica also cites, in standard English syntax and dialect: "Get there first with the most men."

Forrest's "Git thar..." would thus be just one of numerous examples of things never said by the people to whom they are attributed, in a class with Churchill's "blood, sweat, and tears," Bogart's "Play it again Sam," Ralph Waldo Emerson's "Consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds," Leo Durocher's "Nice guys finish last," etc., etc., etc.

A CONTRIBUTION to the family of misquotations has just been made by a man who has misquoted, New York Times correspondent Thomas Friedman.

This time Friedman, who during his stint in Jerusalem had for his guru an Orthodox rabbi-philosopher, misquotes the Talmud; or rather invents a dictum and attributes it to that basic Jewish source.

Friedman, who is not especially known for his love of his Jewish background and who rewrote his life somewhat in order to justify his moral support of Israel's enemies, has now rewritten a Talmudic adage for the same purpose.

He did so in an April 5 op-ed article in the Times attacking certain American "Orthodox and fringe Jewish groups" and "conservative law makers" and this

country's Likud Party.

He takes them to task for "spearheading a drive to push through Congress three initiatives": to prevent the use of US troops in monitoring a peace treaty between Israel and Syria; to declare the PLO in noncompliance with Congress's Middle East Peace Facilitation Act of June 20, thus cutting off US financial aid and diplomatic contacts with the Arafat team; and to implement the letter to the secretary of state calling on Washington to move its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem by May 1999.

Friedman opened his article by citing (nonexistent) "dictum in the Babylonian Talmud that goes like this: 'Where there is complete truth, there is no peace. And where there is peace, there is no complete truth.'"

The Talmud contains no such dictum concerning "truth," whether "complete" or partial. In his commentary, however, Friedman uses the correct word in the passage he was apparently citing. He writes: "What the Sages were trying to say was that seeking perfect justice ... [is] not compatible with peace."

We read in the Talmud: Rabbi Yehoshua ben Korha says: It is a *mitzva*—an act of Divine worship—to compromise, as written, "Speak truth to each other, execute *mishpat* (judgment/justice) of truth and peace ..."

The Sages demur: But if *mishpat* prevails, there can be no peace; and if peace is to prevail, there is no room for *mishpat*!

The reply: *Mishpat* and peace can coexist when there is compromise.

But Rabbi Sima'i observes: On the face of it, strict justice generates resentment between people. Actually, it promotes peace, as written, "Speak truth to each other, execute *mishpat* of truth and peace." Doing so ultimately leads to the fulfillment of the Prophet's words, "The wolf shall dwell with the lamb ... for the earth will be full of the knowledge of God as the waters cover the sea" (Zechariah 8:16; Isaiah 11:6-9; *Mechilta d'Rabbi Shimon bar Yohai*, Epstein-Melamed

edition, Yitro 18:23).

That passage from Zechariah is also the basis for the teaching of Rabbi Shimon ben Gamliel and Rav Manna: Three things sustain the world—truth, *din* (law/justice) and peace.

Don't scoff at *din*, which is one of the three "feet" of the world. As the Sages teach: The world stands on *din*, truth and peace. And bear in mind that if you twist justice, which is one of the legs of the Glory Throne, you cause the universe to teeter, as written: "Tzedek/righteousness and *mishpat* are the foundation of Your throne..." God says: Beware, then, of the dire consequences of distorting justice (Psalms 89:15; Avot 1:18; *Yerushalmi Taanit* 4:2; *Yerushalmi Megilla* 3:6; *Devarim* Rabba 5:1).

FRIEDMAN CANNOT accept the notion that some people don't see a peace process here, but a surrender process, and that is why they "want to destroy it."

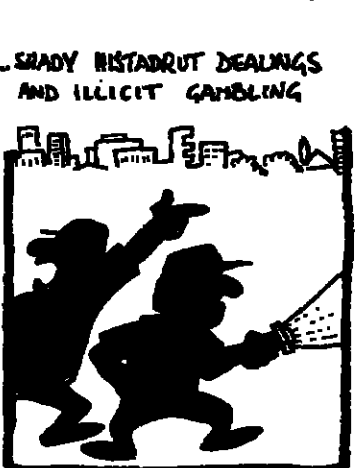
He depicts those American Jewish organizations as apparently able to "thrive only if they have an enemy." As if those unrepentant, unrelentingly hostile Arab and Moslem spokesmen were a figment of our paranoid imagination. And those organizations—the various religious Zionist movements, including Poalei Agudat Yisrael, the Zionist Organization of America under Morton Klein's leadership, and American supporters of the Likud—do not, as Friedman says, lack a "positive vision to offer American Jews on the central questions of American Jewish identity or the fate of Israel-Diaspora relations in this new era." It is just that they are not as sanguine as he is about the prospects of Diaspora Jewry's survival.

And they don't know what "new era" he, Yossi Beilin, Shimon Peres, Shulamit Aloni and Yitzhak Rabin and their collaborators are talking about.

The new era will come about when the rest of us wake up to the fact that those men and women are driving us to the edge of the precipice, and we take control of the wheel.

(With thanks to Dr. Joseph Lerner and Rabbi Zev Gotthold of Jerusalem.)

SRULIK



A connection between the generations

SHABBAT SHALOM

SHLOMO RISKIN

"Speak unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say unto them, You shall be holy (kedoshim); for I the Lord your God am holy." (Leviticus 19:1-2)

WITH 51 of the Torah's 613 commandments in this week's portion, Kedoshim is aptly named. What's more, one of life's basic truths is so much a part of our culture that Prof. Mordechai Rotenberg of the Hebrew University suggests that Freud's theory may also owe its origins to Christianity, whose central image is God "the Father" allowing the crucifixion of His "son." This image paves the way for the ultimate reversal—the "son" overpowering the "Father," proven by fact that the "son's" followers—Christians—do their very best to undermine or destroy their parent religion, Judaism.

In the Freudian or Christian view, the generations are locked in a desperate, sometimes life-or-death, struggle.

However, this week's portion leads us to conclude that the Torah affirms the connection between holiness and parenthood; hence the destruction of the older by the younger would be antithetical to the most fundamental notions of attitude and tradition.

At the heart of our mystical tradition is the concept of *tzimtzum* (contraction), which addresses the following question: Since God is pure spirit and goodness, how could a world

done, he blinds himself.

Many people believe the Oedipus complex theory explains the lingering bitterness between so many fathers and sons, mothers and daughters. The phenomenon is so much a part of our culture that Prof. Mordechai Rotenberg of the Hebrew University suggests that Freud's theory may also owe its origins to Christianity, whose central image is God "the Father" allowing the crucifixion of His "son." This image paves the way for the ultimate reversal—the "son" overpowering the "Father," proven by fact that the "son's" followers—Christians—do their very best to undermine or destroy their parent religion, Judaism.

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At the heart of our mystical tradition is the concept of *tzimtzum* (contraction), which addresses the following question: Since God is pure spirit and goodness, how could a world

drenched in sin, disease and evil have come into existence?

Kabbalists answer that as part of the initial drama of Creation: God contracted Himself, leaving room in the universe for chaos, imperfection and evil. The evil in the world is largely the result of God's partners down here—us—not living up to our end of the partnership.

This concept of *tzimtzum* is also applicable to human relationships—neighbors, coworkers, friends and spouses must allow room for the other, contracting part of themselves to give the other more space and freedom.

Parents are no exception when it comes to *tzimtzum*. In order to allow children to develop and become independent, they must relinquish some of their control.

The wise parent understands that he must provide each child with his own space, and the wise child understands that he must curb some of his own independence in consideration of the family into which he was born.

This week's portion doesn't spell out *tzimtzum*, but we do find a hint of it in the verse, "Every person shall revere his mother and father." The commentators ask why "mother" appears here before "father," in contrast to the honor due to father (first) and mother (second)

in the Ten Commandments.

They explain that since the human tendency is to reverse one's mother less than one's father, and to respect one's father less than one's mother—since the mother is generally the parent of unconditional love and the father the parent who sets limits—the Torah is demanding that reverence and respect for each parent is mandatory, and that wise parents must express both unconditional love as well as clear boundaries. Limits set standards and goals; unconditional love provides leeway for a child to express him/herself without fearing the end of the relationship.

Jewish law determines that while children must honor and respect parents, existential questions such as choosing a mate and profession are to be decided by adult children for themselves, even if the parents disagree.

How wise is our tradition, which understands that the most critical message of redemption is the redirection of the hearts of the generations towards each other, and the concept of *tzimtzum* adds enormously toward the practical understanding of parents raising children or, as parents grow older and need their children more and more, children caring for parents.

Indeed, Torah provides a connection between the generations which allows for common values, life-styles and literature, and prevents the generation gap so harmful to both sides. *Shabbat Shalom*

Pessah handicrafts fair was a success, but let's not stop there

FUNDS

BEVERLEE BLACK

CONGRATULATIONS to all concerned for making our Pessah Handicrafts Fair in Ra'anana one of our most successful.

After expenses, we raised some NIS 44,000. The money is already spoken for and will go a little way toward helping the less fortunate members of our community.

Special thanks to the Ra'anana Municipality, which provided the wonderful sports hall, to Moshe; Eli Hannah who helped smooth out the wrinkles; to Doria who entertained the children; to Hilary who provided the trampoline; to ESRA, whose volunteers never wavered under pressure.

And, of course, thanks to all who displayed crafts, and to all who came to see and buy

them. Without your support, we couldn't have done it.

It was a long day, but on our way home we gave silent thanks to all, knowing we had some money to help those in desperate need.

The fact that we did so well doesn't mean we don't need more money, so please keep your donations coming to all three funds. The more you send, the more we can do. Mail your checks to: The Jerusalem Post Funds, POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem.

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srael, Modi'in. In memory of our beloved daughter, Devora, dear father Yosef, uncle Miki and yehudis of my dear mother, Scheindel and dear aunt Ida—Molly and Irving Kreider, Netanya, Arthur and Vivian, Ra'anana. From the Gens Bridge Group, Lena Miller, Petah Tikva.

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Maybe old, but bold

BRIDGE

MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

East dealer
Neither side vulnerable

North
♠ K8654
♥ QJ3
♦ Q9
♣ AQ7

West (Roth)
♠ 109
♥ 765
♦ K108752
♣ 64

East
♠ AQ972
♥ 4
♦ A643
♣ K53

South
♠ J
♥ AK10982
♦ J
♣ J10982

West North East South
pass 4♣ pass 5♣
5♣ double pass 5♣
(all pass)

Opening lead: ♠10

A ceremony took place for the new US Bridge Hall of Fame earlier this month in Phoenix. Bridge writers and champion players were asked to vote for inductees of living and deceased players.

Three living players were inducted this year, with the requirement that they be over the age of 60. They were Edgar Kaplan of New York, Alvin Roth of Florida and Bobby Wolff of Texas. All three are still active.

Kaplan, co-inventor of the Kaplan-Sheinwold bidding system, is editor of *Bridge World Magazine*. Roth, the inventor of numerous bidding conventions, including the negative double, unusual notrump and forcing notrump, is a regular columnist for *Bridge Today Magazine*. Wolff, a member of the Dallas Aces, was, until recently, president of the World Bridge Federation.

Roth, at 80, still plays tournaments, though not with the seriousness that brought him hundreds of championships.

In his column, Roth argues against the current trend of light initial actions. He recommends a

full 13 points for an opening bid.

This theory of sound openings is based on the idea that it makes it easier for a partnership to take calculated risks in the bidding.

When your partner opens on light hands, you are often worried about getting overboard. But if your partner is known to be solid, you can double the opponents or make a risky bid in a competitive auction with a higher probability of success.

At a recent tournament in Houston, Roth sat in the West position in the diagram.

With only one king and a six-card diamond suit, he was not likely to be a factor, but he made his assets count. His partner opened the bidding one spade and South overcalled two hearts. Roth had to pass and North bid four hearts. This was passed around to Roth, who made a rather daring — some would say reckless — bid of five diamonds. What was his reasoning for such a bid?

"All my life I have gotten good results by listening carefully to the bidding of my opponents. I held three small hearts, and when I heard them bid and raise hearts to the four-level, in a confident tone, I knew that my partner could hold only one heart at most. If my partner held a seven-card spade suit, he probably would have risked a four-spade bid. There was a good chance, therefore, to find him with at least three cards in diamonds. And since we play sound opening bids, I knew he would have 13 working points for me."

The effect of the five-diamond bid can be seen. It hit the bull's-eye, because the contract is lay-down. South did the best he could by bidding five hearts, which failed by one trick. Roth still scored heavily on the deal because other Souths were left alone to declare four hearts.

"I didn't sit there and work out the length in every suit," Roth said. "Eighty years of instincts told me to take a chance."



Herbs like mint (left) and rosemary add flavor and a decorative touch to foods. (Nowitz/Sacilinski)



They delight the senses

THE use of herbs is recorded in ancient Greece and Rome, and in Egyptian prescriptions from 1800 BCE. No doubt herbs were in use long before that.

Some perennial herbs (rosemary, lavender, oregano, horseradish, thyme) grow more beautifully every year. Others, such as nasturtium and basil, must be replanted each year.

They may be small and bushy, spreading or climbing shrubs, such as the *lousia*, or trees such as the bay laurel. They can be pruned, or left to their own devices, and will provide a lush green background to the flowers in your garden. Some have showy flowers, others virtually none. Some need lots of watering, or lots of sun, others need no attention at all. Most are very easy to

GARDENING
INEZ KLIMIST

grow. Some, like mint and melissa, are positively invasive, others keep to their allotted space. Almost all are useful to have in your garden.

If you don't have a garden, you can grow a good selection in pots on a windowsill. If you have space and time, you can plant a formal herb garden in the manner of the Europeans.

CULPEPER'S HERBAL, linking herbs with astrology, was first published in 1649, and is still in print today. Culpeper based a system of natural healing on the premise that red flowers are good for the blood, plants with liver-shaped leaves are good for the liver, and so on. He originally catalogued about 1,000 herbs and their uses.

The uses prescribed by Culpeper are surprising, to say the least. For example, the daisy's "crushed fresh leaves will soothe wounds and help healing."

The book is locally available, published by Sterling Publishing Co., and is full of lovely illustrations

for easy identification of the plants. It makes fun reading.

Most of the herbs mentioned are still available, though suggested uses must be modified somewhat.

Any cook will welcome a selection of herbs in his or her garden. The following are but a few examples of ways in which herbs can enhance a dish:

Coriander chopped and sprinkled on stew; fresh chopped basil added to French beans; young nasturtium leaves and flowers added to a salad; chopped or pureed sorrel added to an omelet; marinated made up with fresh herbs and frozen in a tightly closed packet for use during the winter; parsley eaten with dishes containing garlic to help reduce after-effects; dill seed sprinkled on a potato salad; and any combination of herbs added to the pan when frying croutons.

All these additions take only an extra minute yet make a great deal of difference to the outcome.

Just a few years ago, herbs weren't sold in local nurseries and we had to start them all from seed. Today a large selection of all types of herbs are readily available.

Plenty of wealth, but little glory

CHESS

NICK KOPALOFF

THE chess writer C.H. Alexander used to joke that the chess world could be ordered into four distinct groups according to playing strength: Russian Jews, Russian non-Jews, non-Russian Jews and non-Russian non-Jews.

In their book *The Psychology of Chess*, W.R. Hartston and P.C. Watson address the question of why Jews are so conspicuously good at chess.

They conclude that chess prowess may have developed among Jews out of a need to excel in activities other than those from which they had for so long been excluded.

This argument gains some credence when one considers that, since the establishment of the State of Israel and the unbacking of all restrictions previously imposed on Jews, the standard of chess in the Jewish homeland has fallen far short of expectations. In 1973 Israel could not boast even a single grand master.

Many local chess fans predicted that the mass Russian immigration to Israel, which brought an unprecedented wealth of world-class chess talent, would help establish the country as a leading force in the international arena. Sadly, however, they were proved wrong.

In last year's 31st Chess Olympics in Moscow (which attracted a record 124 national teams), Israel finished a disappointing 14th.

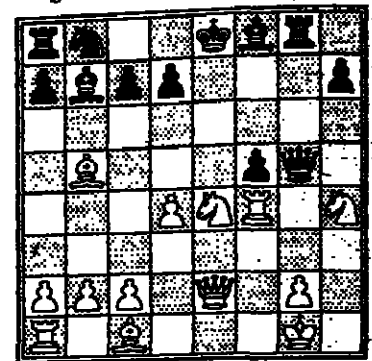
Ironically, with not one grand master in their lineup at the 1988 Chess Olympics in Greece, Israel still came 11th.

World champion Gary Kasparov's active support for the planned establishment of a national chess academy in Israel may provide the impetus for Israeli chess to make the short ascent to true international glory.

In the following miniature exhibition game Kasparov suffers a rare, humiliating defeat at the hands of his PCA world title contender, England's Nigel Short. It was little consolation for the challenger, who had been convincingly thrashed in the all-important preceding championship games.

Short - Kasparov
London 1993
King's Gambit

1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Bc4 Qh4+ 4.Kf1 h5 (these opening moves were pre-selected by a random draw before the game) 5.Bxb5 Nf6 6.Nc3 Qh6 7.Nc3 g5 8.d4 Bb7 9.h4 Rg8 10.Kg1 g4 11.Rxb4 Qg6 12.Qe2 Nxe4 13.Rxe4 f5 14.Nb4 Qg5 15. Nxe4! See diagram.



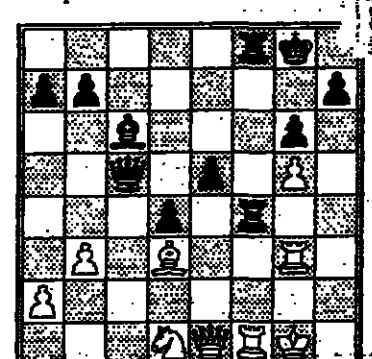
Both 15...Bxe4 16.Rxe4+ and 15...fxe4 16.Rxf8+ win the queen. 1-0

IN THIS month's Netanya Junior Open Championships, local lad Elion Bilensky secured first place with 6.5 points ahead of the other 32 participants.

Unbeaten in all his seven games he edged out Igor Ismailov 6, and Arthur Levitsky and Yigal Mellin 5.5.

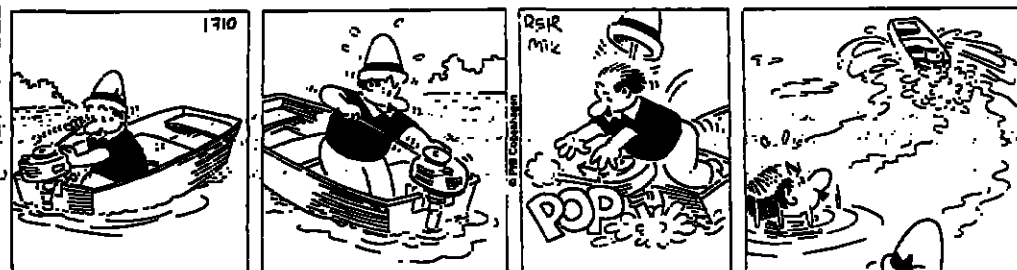
THIS WEEK'S problem is taken from the game Soos - Teschner 1970.

Black to play and win is tempted to threaten mate on h1 by playing 1...Qd5. But is 2.Bd4 an adequate deterrent?



Solution: 1...Qd5 2.Bd4 seemingly puts a deadly pin on the Black queen. But 2...Rf1+ 3.Qd1 Rf1+ 4.Kf1 Bb5!! counter-pins white into submission. 0-1

FERNAND



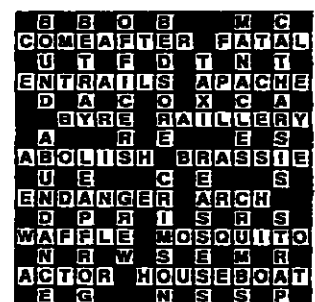
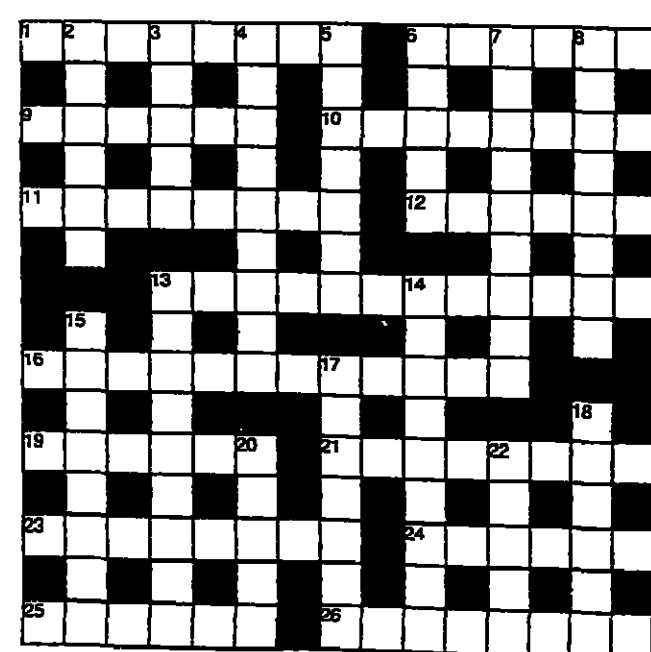
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Saintly lady who affected one vicar badly (8)
- 6 One member in the sick bay of the boat (6)
- 9 On paper, he's the head... (6)
- 10 ...and this paper is on the head of an idiot (8)
- 11 Dishevelled relation arrives from China (8)
- 12 Gases given off by ship about eleven perhaps (6)
- 13 Net straining horribly, but it refuses to budge (12)
- 16 Does he blind the constable with his eye catching style? (12)
- 19 Shelter provided for protection (6)
- 21 Bill's stories! (8)

DOWN

- 2 Instrument to hold ice cream perhaps (8)
- 24 Ladies who make perfect models (6)
- 25 Stick a poster in this place (6)
- 26 There's something not right in taking a nun about (8)
- 2 Stick it out! Finish the course on the river (6)
- 3 Troubled tour to the Orient was most extravagant (5)
- 4 Irate about dirt—very annoyed! (9)
- 5 Two chaps got a lot of cattle fodder (7)
- 6 Marksman feel uncomfortable in a boat (5)



Yesterday's Quick Solution
ACROSS: 1. Whistle; 2. Bored; 3. Talon; 4. Meander; 5. Harvest; 6. Arena; 7. Greedy; 8. Almost; 17. Atlas; 19. Nonstop; 23. Diploma; 25. Vanish; 26. Dwell; 28. Larceny.

DOWN: 1. Watch; 2. Falsely; 3. Hence; 4. Remotely; 5. Bred; 6. Sledge; 7. Dormant; 12. Guarded; 13. Deep; 16. Obtrude; 18. Entail; 19. Lapse; 20. Never; 21. Petty.

QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Edible grain (6)
- 4 Position (5)
- 8 South West river (5)
- 9 Turn at batting (7)
- 10 Digs out (7)
- 11 Caper (4)
- 12 Aim (3)
- 14 Appropriate (4)
- 15 Framework (4)
- 18 Notice (3)
- 21 Check (4)
- 23 Trainee (7)
- 25 Eschew (7)
- 26 Perfect (6)
- 27 Occurrence (5)
- 28 Concurs (6)

DOWN

- 1 Material of violin strings (6)
- 2 Great regret (7)
- 3 eg Heathrow and Gatwick (8)
- 4 Long (4)
- 5 Make void (5)
- 6 Tries (6)
- 7 Wash out (5)
- 13 Imagining (8)
- 16 Call together (7)
- 17 Indoor shopping area (6)
- 19 Antelope (5)
- 20 Trimmings (6)
- 22 Outflow (5)
- 24 Quickly (4)

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No pistachios grow on a pistacia tree

NATURE

D'VORA BEN SHAUL

DON'T expect to find pistachio nuts growing on the local varieties of pistacia trees, called *atazi ela* in Hebrew.

These trees, like their nut-bearing cousin in other places, especially Turkey and Iran, are members of the group called *Anacardiaceae* in Latin. There are three species represented here.

Pistacia trees are not the most impressive of trees, but they are a vital part of the Mediterranean woodlands' ecosystem.

Commonest is the familiar *Pistacia palaestina* that grows all over the country. It is one of the small number of trees that add color to the Mediterranean woodlands and is known in Hebrew as *ela erez-visraelit*.

The blossom adds a touch of russet color to groves and forests in the early spring and the large galls (*afatim*) are bright cerulean and remain as large colorful pods on the tree even after the leaves are shed in autumn.

These galls are of particular interest to dyers of wool who use only natural colors. The galls,

which are formed by the invasion of a parasite, are a source of bright pink, almost red, dye and are greatly cherished. In addition, it is possible to produce turpentine from almost every part of the tree including its fruit, but this material is usually obtained by making cuts in the bark. In ancient times this tree was the chief local source of turpentine.

Pistacia pollen that is at least 75,000 years old has been discovered and studied.

Less widespread and appearing chiefly in Galilee, the Negev hills and the Golan, is the Atlantic pistacia (Latin: *Pistacia atlantica*; Hebrew: *ela atlantit*). This tree is found throughout the Mediterranean countries and is larger and more impressive than the Palestinian pistacia but less colorful. It has been around for at least 80,000 years and is mentioned in the Scriptures.

The third pistacia tree is actual-

ly more often seen as a shrub and is a typical and vital part of the so-called scrub forests of the Middle East. It is the familiar *Pistacia lentiscus* (in Hebrew: *ela hamasik*), known in English as the gum pistacia tree.

It is characterized by its abundance of bright red berry clusters that are a favored food of some wild animals and a feast for all creatures, ants. Certain birds also aid in its dispersal by dropping undigested seeds in various places.

There are two others that are a part of this large family but are not true pistacias. They are called by the name *rhus* in Latin, or *og* in Hebrew. Both are either shrubs or small trees and are widely distributed throughout Mediterranean woodlands. They both have larger leaves and thicker foliage than true pistacias, and more discrete blossoms.

Because these trees grow fairly fast and are extremely hardy, they serve as an excellent cover and shade for more delicate members of the Mediterranean woodland ecosystem.

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By Ellen Feingold MD and Miriam Freier

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FERNAND



مكتبة الأصيل

If you dare, hike up to the glories of Machu Picchu

Ancient ruins and remote villages in Peru are again destinations for the adventurous, Christopher Reynolds writes

IT'S noon on a gray South American summer day, and some of the oldest rocks in the world are again playing to an awestruck audience.

These stones weigh tons, yet they've been lugged up a mountain and fitted snugly together with unearthly precision. They point as accurately as a compass needle and line up with the sun and moon.

This is a remarkable scene, no question. But for several years travelers have not been coming, kept away by rampant terrorism verging on civil war. Now Peru's reputation is under repair, and the archeological and natural wonders of Cuzco and Machu Picchu are again points of pilgrimage for the adventurous.

Peru is still no place for the delicate or the heedless. Lima, the capital that most travelers pass through to reach Cuzco, has chronic problems with infrastructure, pollution and crime. Machu Picchu is a steep mountaintop with narrow trails and precious few handrails. And the US State Department is still dispensing this disquieting sentence to would-be travelers: "With the exception of certain tourist areas, which have been free of terrorist activity, terrorist bombings and shootings occur throughout Peru."

So what is it that persuades people to come?

Flying into Cuzco, you rise to 30,000 feet, pierce clouds, dart past sharp, snowy Andean peaks and mountainous jungle, and then suddenly are surrounded by red dirt hills, green stubbled slopes, stone-terraced farms and uncountable rows of potatoes and corn.

You land at the busy airport, step out of the plane, and are immediately short of breath: Though you're on the floor of a deep valley, you're more than 3,000 meters above sea level.

"Soroche" is the Spanish word for altitude sickness. Newcomers are advised to take a nap upon arrival, sip some coca tea and go easy for a few hours.

Cuzco may be the oldest continuously occupied town on the South American continent. The Incas made their capital here for generations, laid out the city in the shape of a puma, adorned



A flight of stone terraces climbs up to the ruins of Machu Picchu, the most famous architectural site in South America. (C. Reynolds/Los Angeles Times)

the monuments lavishly with gold and silver.

The Inca thatched roofs have long since been overtaken by Spanish-style red tiles. But its art and architecture are unique in the world — a shotgun marriage of the Incan and Spanish.

IN A single block on Cuzco's narrow streets, a walker will often see a precisely fitted Inca wall, a bowler-hatted Quechua woman who will demand money if you take her picture, and an ornately carved second-story balcony that seems to have been imported straight from Moorish Spain.

Most of the storefronts around the Plaza de Armas are now adventure outfitters, snack bars and souvenir stands.

If one reads just a little history before venturing into the streets of Cuzco, any block can quickly unfold as a source of wonderment.

Five hundred years ago, Cuzco stood as the seat of power in an Inca empire that included tens of millions of subjects. Inca territory ran 4,800 km. along the Andes, from what is now central Chile to southern Colombia.

Then came 1532, and the arrival of Francisco Pizarro. He had fewer than 200 men, but he also had horses (never before seen in this territory), some crude guns, great shrewdness and dumb luck. He had arrived in the middle of an Inca civil war.

Within two years, the Spaniards — still numbering about 200 — had seized

virtually everything of value, slaughtered thousands of Inca warriors and subjugated an empire of millions.

The invaders took over Cuzco in 1533, and though some Inca stalwarts held out in a "lost city" in the jungle until 1572, their world had been set on its head.

Cuzco makes an impression. But a tour of the surrounding countryside's villages and ruins can overshadow it. Leaving behind the grid of streets, you rise into a stark world of Andean hills and Quechua nomenclature.

The village of Pisac, 32 km. northeast of Cuzco, fills every Sunday with a prosperous market that draws tourists by the busload. The glory of Pisac, though, is the series of ruins above the

town — terraces topped by a temple. From the end of the nearest road, it takes an hour or two of hiking to reach the highest peaks, but once you do, the view is mesmerizing. Yet Pisac's ruins get fewer than one visitor for every 10 who reach Machu Picchu.

At Ollantaytambo, site of a rare Inca victory over the Spanish in their early skirmishing, an old Inca temple and a granary cling to a hillside, along with a series of steep and well-preserved farming terraces. In the lively village below, about 50 km. northwest of Cuzco, families still reside in homes first raised by pre-Hispanic builders.

Far from Ollantaytambo, the railroad tracks run west through a narrow, twisting valley. Thirty-two km.

down the valley lies Machu Picchu. When archeologist Hiram Bingham first came upon Machu Picchu in 1911, writes author John Hemming, his opening glimpse was "a magnificent flight of stone terraces, a hundred of them, climbing for almost a thousand feet up the hillside."

So, they remain, the overgrowth trimmed away, the steps steadily trod by travelers. The ruins are open from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day, and are served by a fleet of 16 tourist buses, which never leave the neighborhood. All day long, they rumble up and down the harrowing switchback mountain road.

Most visitors are day-trippers. They arrive from Cuzco via train, file onto a bus for the 600-meter ascent, arrive at the ruins sometime after 10:30 a.m., take a guided tour, and eat a cafeteria lunch at the Turista Hotel. By 3:30 p.m., they've been carted away on a downhill bus.

Fifty them. The ruins are not a compact collection of buildings but a small city, with no end of curious structures, stairways and viewpoints. Here, a steep path leads to the neighboring peak of Huayna Picchu. There, a path joins a climactic stretch of the 32 km. Inca Trail, magnet to backpackers the world over.

TO EXPLORE the site reasonably — and with very few others around — a noncamping traveler can do one of two things. You can plan far ahead and reserve one of the 41 rooms at the Turista, a mediocre place that gets away with rates of \$102 a night because it's the only lodging on the mountaintop.

Or you can stay down the hill in the hamlet of Aguas Calientes, and earn the view by scorning the bus and hiking up the mountain early in the morning (one to two hours) before the buses start, and hiking (or taking the bus) back down the mountain in the late afternoon (about 45 minutes).

Amid drizzle, I marched away from the central ruins by following the old Inca Trail — carefully, since the path was less than 1 meter wide, the stones were slick and the fall to my left would be about 600 meters, possibly concluding with a splash into the roaring Vilcanota River.

After three twisting uphill kilometers, I was at Intipunku, a ruin with a staggering view of the jungle, the river and the ruins of the old city.

Getting there, I passed only half-a-dozen other hikers. Arriving, I found one other man, who kept silently to his own end of the hilltop. On the hike back, the trail was busier. Two Spanish speakers, six English speakers, a couple of nonspeakers. A red-and-black centipede. And four damp llamas, if this kind of traffic is what the re-discovery of Machu Picchu means, I'll take it.

Where art meets industry

SEE IT HERE
HAIM SHAPIRO

NOT everyone would choose to go to a factory or, to be more precise, an industrial park, as a leisure-time activity, but the Tel Hai Industrial Park shows every sign of becoming one of the attractions of the north.

Located just off the road between Kiryat Shmona and Metulla, opposite historic Tel Hai, the industrial park, with its well-designed buildings and occasional sculptures, occupies a series of rolling hills with a view of Mt. Hermon.

Like its prototype at Tefen, the park is the inspiration of entrepreneur Steff Wertheimer.

A series of small factories occupy most of the buildings, where everything from light aircraft to disposable diapers are produced. For the casual visitor, the main attraction is undoubtedly the Museum of Photography and the recently opened Museum of Automobiles.

Arye Dahan, who directs both this site and the one at Tefen, says that as attractive as the exhibits may be, he sees them as a means to an end — to attract the attention of businesspeople who might be inspired to locate their industries in the park after they visit it.

He admits that the Tel Hai site presents difficulties, mainly because of its geographical distance from the center of the country, but also because of the security situation in a region which experiences occasional Katyusha attacks. In addition, industries wanting to locate in the park have to meet a series of requirements, including being environmentally friendly.

Dahan also wants school groups to visit, so children will get the feeling that industry is something positive.



The well-designed buildings of Tel Hai Industrial Park afford a view of Mt. Hermon.

PARADOXICALLY, ONE of the current photographic exhibitions at the museum portrays industry in anything but a positive light. Gorka Salmeron Murgiondo, a Basque photographer, seems to revel in the most appalling aspects of industrial life. His black-and-white photographs seem to radiate with the heat of the machines and the stench of putrid pools of industrial waste.

At the same time, his photographs can be seen as a study in light, shadow and composition and have a beauty all their own, transcending the intrinsic ugliness of the subject matter.

In contrast, the clean and esthetic factories and production systems photographed by Hanan Getreide, Shmuel Shmueli, Rafi Venezian and Uri Bazravi seem cold and lifeless.

It is surely no accident that the curators placed these works alongside the almost abstract aerial landscape photographs of Duby Tal, a pilot and photographer, who executed this series with his partner, Moni Haramait, who on this occasion did the piloting.

With some of the photographs, it is only after long study that one can discern the actual objects, the fields or trees, being photographed.

A different kind of study is needed for the hand-colored photographs of Felix Bonifis, a 19th-century photographer whose

works were popular in Christian Europe. Here, one finds oneself approaching familiar scenes from a perspective devoid of the developments of the last hundred years.

THE PARK is open from 9 a.m.

to 4 p.m., Sunday through Thursday. On Shabbat and holidays is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is NIS 8 for adults and NIS 4 for children, the elderly, new immigrants and soldiers. There is a small cafeteria which serves snacks and light meals.

Morocco package includes tour, pilgrimage

A tour combined with a pilgrimage is Peltours' latest offer. The travel company has scheduled a visit to Morocco for May 10, to include the annual visit to the grave of the 18th-century sage, Rabbi Amram Diwan. The price of \$1,563 includes airfare and accommodation in five-star hotels with half board for 13 days.

LUFTHANSA HAS initiated a fax check-in service for its business-class passengers, who send their name, flight number and seat request at least a day before departure. On arrival at Ben-Gurion Airport they receive their boarding card and luggage tags at a special counter.

THE GERMAN Tourist Office is offering reduced-rate hotel vouchers for a choice of 170 hotels in Germany, as well as some in Austria, the Czech Republic and Hungary. Prices start at DM 89 (about \$64) per person in a double room.

BRITISH BONUS is a new British Airways' series of packages to London. Prices for a three-night visit, including flights and hotel, start at \$304, while the price of

TRAVEL TIPS HAIM SHAPIRO

the six-night visit starts at \$641. In other deals, the airline is offering passengers special prices for London hotels and car rental in Britain.

All visitors to Britain should consider buying the Great British Heritage pass, which gives free entry to more than 500 historic attractions, as well as other discounts. The pass, available only to overseas visitors, is £22 (approximately NIS 105) for seven days, £31 for 15 days, and £47 for a month. It is available at some travel agents, numerous tourist centers in Britain and at the British Travel Centre, 12 Regent Street, London.

RCI, THE international time-sharing conglomerate, which represents more than 3,000 resorts around the world, now has a Tel Aviv office at 100 Rehov Habashmonaim, Tel. 03-5650707. Local time-sharing owners can not only exchange their units for those abroad; they can also arrange for flights, car rental and travel insurance.

NORTHWEST AIRLINES and its affiliate KLM are offering a series of perks to families on their transatlantic flights, including free accommodation in hotels in New York, Las Vegas and Orlando, and free car rentals. A family of four can receive five nights at an Orlando hotel and a rental car for a week.

AIR MALTA has renewed its flights here. The company now flies once a week between the two countries. It is scheduled to begin flights twice weekly, on Mondays and Thursdays, in the near future.

A PROGRAM which is intended to present Jewish traditions to Jewish and Christian tourists is being offered by Spirit of Israel Seminars. Sessions utilize ceremonial objects, pictures, stories and music.

The price of a seminar for a minimum of 15 participants is \$12 per person. For details, call 02-991-9191.

THE Tel Aviv Hilton is giving guests a choice of 70 current video films, screened at times to suit the customers. The price is \$10 per movie.

BEGIN: A Portrait



Harry Z. Hurwitz

A warm Jew who loved the Jewish people, Menachem Begin was one of the most beloved leaders that Israel has ever known. He was also one of the most effective, leaving to Israel a legacy of peace, strength and faith unmatched by any other modern leader of the nation. Harry Zvi Hurwitz, who was professionally and personally associated with Begin, has culled Begin's addresses, statements, announcements, interviews and his own personal notes to produce a remarkable biography that also captures Begin's political and personal thoughts and observations.

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A good dialogue is a painful one

Cardinal Lustiger's visit is valuable despite having evoked much pain, according to Conservative Rabbi Ehud Bandel, Haim Shapiro writes

No pain, no gain, is one rabbi's unusual way of viewing the visit here of Jean-Marie Cardinal Lustiger of Paris.

Rabbi Ehud Bandel, a Conservative rabbi and a vice president of the International Conference of Christians and Jews, said that dialogue is meaningful only when it involves exposure of painful differences.

Speaking before Lustiger's arrival, Bandel said it is a mistake to think that dialogue means a friendly, comfortable conversation, when real dialogue begins only when pain and anger surface in full force.

"In the specific case of this Tel Aviv University conference and that of Cardinal Lustiger," Bandel said, "the pain and bitterness are twofold. Firstly, the pain felt by every Jew when facing a fellow Jew who has renounced his faith; and secondly - but much more important - the painful silence of the Church during the darkest age of humanity."

Bandel added, however, that it is precisely because of this anguish that we must face each other and voice our thoughts, painful as they may be.

Lustiger's visit provoked a cry of pain even before landing here.

When Tel Aviv University invited Lustiger to address its conference on "The Silence of God" Wednesday, the eve of Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day, it must have realized it would have a problem.

This despite the fact that, for Christians involved in interfaith



Lustiger is said to have been instrumental in formulating a statement by the French Bishops' Committee for Relations with Jews in 1973, calling for a "new vision of the Jewish people." (Hendler)

activities, Lustiger is one of the leading figures. According to those knowledgeable about Catholic-Jewish relations, it was Lustiger who was instrumental in the formulation of a very far-reaching

statement by the French Bishops' Committee for Relations with Jews in 1973, calling on all Christians for a "new vision of the Jewish people."

University president Yoram Dinstein said the conference had been planned as a dialogue, and the university had invited Lord Rabbi Immanuel Jakobovits, the former chief rabbi of Britain. Jakobovits backed out after Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau banned rabbinical participation.

Rabbi David Rosen, the former chief rabbi of Ireland and the director of interreligious activities for the Anti-Defamation League, while not quite as critical as Lau, also described the invitation as ill advised.

Only a year and a half ago, Rosen had organized an interreligious conference in Jerusalem with the participation of Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, president of the Vatican Secretariat for Doctrine and Faith, and a staunch theological conservative.

When asked how he viewed the Lustiger invitation, Rosen said that naturally every academic or private institution has the right to invite anyone it pleases for every and any occasion. But he questioned the sensitivity of inviting Lustiger, especially for the Holocaust memorial.

"I believe the decision to invite this particular personality, whose personal decision inevitably evokes negative Jewish reactions, and especially for this occasion, whose significance has such emotional overtones in Israel, was ill advised," Rosen said.

He added that there were many who said that in organizing last year's conference he had been trying to rush too far in terms of Jewish and Christian dialogue.

"But even I, who am accused of going too far, find the [Lustiger] invitation irresponsible. It makes it difficult to go ahead with less-controversial personalities," Rosen said.

Ramon mum as his wife takes to the catwalk

GRAPEVINE

GREER FAY CASHMAN

As a rule, Histadrut chairman Haim Ramon would frown on scab labor. But today, he will turn a blind eye to the fact that his wife Pina, actress Gula Nuni, singers Edna Lev and Shula Chen, TV talk show hostess Ruby Porat-Shoval and other socialites are taking over the territory of professional models at an Amica fashion show at Gan Oranim.

Family ties are not the sole reason for the Histadrut chairman's silence on the subject. Proceeds from the fashion show are going to Nitzan, which is dedicated to helping children with learning disabilities. It just so happens that Pina Ramon chairs the Nitzan public committee; and if the gimmick of amateur models puts more money in the kitty, Haim Ramon is not about to put a spoke in his wife's wheel.

"I DON'T know if I'm one of the good guys," quipped real-estate tycoon and offshore oil explorer Joe Elmaleh at the reopening of his Nargila restaurant in Jerusalem. The Beirut-born Elmaleh, whose family has lived in Jerusalem for "donkeys' generations," was referring to his name, which in pre-Inquisition Spain was *Bueno*, which means good. The Moors translated it to the Arabic *Elmaleh*, he said, and the family has been using the Arabic nomenclature ever since.

Unlike his other ventures, which are traded on the stock exchange, the Bistop-Nargila food outlets are privately owned, with 85 percent under Elmaleh's control and 15 percent in the hands of Danny Toledano, deputy chairman of Elmaleh's flagship company JOEL (Jerusalem Oil Exploration Limited).

A mystery man who for years kept a low profile and refused to discuss his entrepreneurial interests, Elmaleh, who has homes in Jerusalem, London and New York, has this past week opened up to the media. Among those attending the festivities at Nargila were Likud MK Tzahi Hanegbi and his wife Rami, who brought their son Idan; Foreign Ministry director-general Eitan Bentsur; peripatetic Likud MK Eliahu Ben-Elissar and his wife Nitzza, and Elmaleh's boyhood friend Amos Mar-Haim, who heads the opposition in the Jerusalem City Council.

Mayor Ehud Olmert and his wife Aliza were also there; and although the food was not exactly kosher, Olmert kept reaching out to passing trays. At the beginning of the week Olmert was accused by Meretz city councillor Ornan Yekutieli of having dined during Pessah in a nonkosher Chinese restaurant which served *hametz*.

Yekutieli's charges provoked a minor storm among Olmert's religious coalition partners at City Hall. Asked by *Grapevine* whether or not he had been at the eatery in question, Olmert admitted to being physically present in the Chinese restaurant - "But I only stepped inside, that's all."

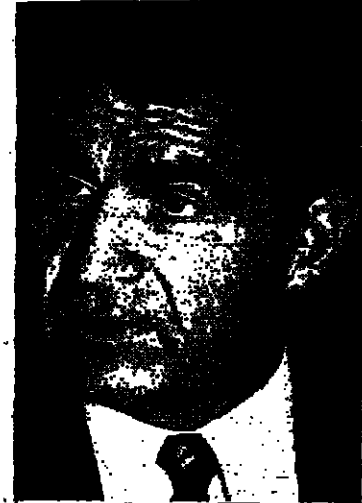
COUNCIL FOR a Beautiful Israel president Amra Herzog has always preferred to say it with flowers. This week, she's all but shouting it from the rooftops.

Herzog has persuaded David Stevens and Mel Atlas, two international experts on garden landscaping and flower arrangements, to join the panel of judges for the CBI's flower arrangements contest due to take place at Tel Aviv's Center for Environmental Studies during CBI's May 7-10 "Beautification Week."

Stevens, who has a popular program on the BBC, has written 14 books on gardening, and is consultant to *Home and Garden* magazine. A popular lecturer, he



MK Tzahi Hanegbi, with son Idan, and deputy chairman of JOEL Danny Toledano (center), join JOEL chairman Joe Elmaleh at the reopening of his Nargila restaurant in Jerusalem; Ignatz Bubis (bottom left) and widely translated author Michael Bar-Zohar attend Shlomo Hillel's Keren Hayesod cocktail party. (Shvan Farag; Tamar Mizgish/Israel Sun; Isaac Harel)



has been buttonholed into sharing some of his secrets with local gardening enthusiasts, whom he will address on May 10.

Atlas, whose regular clients include celebrities like real-estate and casino magnate Donald Trump and cosmetics queen Estee Lauder, is known as the top florist in New York and Palm Beach. Atlas will give a lecture-demonstration of his art on May 7.

LOCAL BRITS who may have been preening for the visit of Princess Margaret have missed the boat. On Thursday last week the queen's sister crossed the border from Jordan and spent five hours touring Tiberias and other parts of Galilee in the company of British diplomats. At the conclusion of the very brief and private visit, her royal highness returned to Jordan.

KEREN HAYESOD chairman Shlomo Hillel hosted his annual Pessah cocktail reception at the Tel Aviv Hilton, which is owned by Ashkenazim and which is patronized mainly by Ashkenazim. Neither of these factors prevented the food and beverage department from putting out peanuts and other products which Ashkenazi Jews do not eat on Pessah. Expressing his surprise at seeing such a blatant display of *kinyuot*, Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Israel Meir Lau diplomatically credited the hotel with wanting to do something in Hillel's honor. Hillel, a former chairman of the Sephardi Federation, was greatly amused at the suggestion, but doubted that his ethnic identity had anything to do with the matter.

HILLEL'S COCKTAIL party was primarily for the international family of Keren Hayesod donors who spend their vacations in Israel, but also for Israelis who have contributed to the success of various Keren Hayesod projects. "I'm the only hotelier here," boasted Moshe Sand, general manager of Jerusalem's Hyatt

Regency Hotel. But that wasn't quite true. Also present was Ignatz Bubis, head of the German Jewish community. Bubis is part owner of the Tel Aviv Sheraton, which is his home away from home on his frequent visits to Israel. How much does he own?

"I don't know exactly how many shares I have," he shrugged. Other guests included Arye Levin, Israel's first ambassador to the Soviet Union; and prolific and widely translated author Michael Bar-Zohar.

JUSTICE MINISTER David Levi and Health Minister Ephraim Sneh, whose demeanor is usually conservative, proved that there's a more spirited side to their respective natures when they let their hair down at Minnowa festivities in Mazkeret Batya. Foreign Minister Shimon Peres went even further at Minnowa celebrations in Nahariya and donned a fez and a galabiyah. It was somewhat different from his usual sartorial splendor, but not all that out of place considering that he has Moroccan in-laws.

ABSORPTION MINISTRY spokesman Amnon Beeri has made a fairly positive impression on journalists covering the immigrant absorption beat, but never more so than this week when he showed his priorities are in the right order. Beeri was giving a lift to three journalists who were going from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv to cover a press conference with Absorption Minister Yair Tzaban. As they approached Sha'ar Hagai, there was a big traffic jam caused by a large truck which had overturned. Beeri, a medic in the IDF reserves, jumped out of his car and for 10 minutes administered first aid to the injured driver until an ambulance arrived.

SPEAKING AT Beersheba's Allenby Park at the unveiling ceremony of a plaque donated by Ross Bastiaan to commemorate Australian involvement in liberating Beersheba from the Turks in 1917, Senator Michael Bastiaan, president of the Australian Senate, joked: "Some might suggest that, to an Australian, any place with the word beer contained in the place name was worth fighting for."

But Beersheba mayor Yitzhak Rager had his own version of the city's onomastic origins. There was a common misconception, he said, that Beersheba means seven wells. According to Rager, Beersheba means oath of the well. It was here, he said, that Abraham and local inhabitants signed the first peace pact not to fight over the water.

BEAUTY QUEEN Yanna Kalman used to be a daily visitor at Shalva Ben-Gal's fashion store in Tel Aviv's Opera Tower. It's not that Kalman is so clothes crazy that she had to buy something new every day. It's simply that her boyfriend, Gil Pincus, is employed at the store. Kalman's visits have been put on hold while she's abroad as Israel's representative in the Miss Universe contest. The two are expected to resume their romance next month.

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The day we remember our dear ones

On Tuesday, May 2, sirens will sound throughout the country at 8 p.m.

We call on all households to kindle a memorial light

On Wednesday, May 3, sirens for a minute's silence will sound at 11 a.m., at which time, national memorial ceremonies will be held at military cemeteries, and services will take place in cemeteries where the fallen are buried.

Ministry of Defense
Rehabilitation Division
Section for Memorializing the Fallen

GOLDEN AGE SUPPLEMENT

The Jerusalem Post will publish a special "Golden Age" supplement in May, 1995. The supplement will appear together with both the local and the international editions of The Jerusalem Post.

All those interested in placing ads in the supplement should contact

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23 '95 The Jerusalem Post
as his wife
catwalk



JOEL ELIAS, a property of his Nargila restaurant, and his wife, Shlomo Hillel's wife, are seen at the catwalk.



JOEL ELIAS, a property of his Nargila restaurant, and his wife, Shlomo Hillel's wife, are seen at the catwalk.

For this year, the catwalk was held at the Nargila restaurant, which is located in the heart of the city. The event was attended by many guests, including the famous couple Joel Elias and his wife, Shlomo Hillel's wife.

The catwalk was a great success, and the couple was seen in many photos. The event was held in a beautiful setting, and the atmosphere was very lively. The couple was the center of attention, and their presence added a lot of glamour to the event.

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 1995

Haagen-Dasz importers to court: Duty is unfair

Post Business Staff

THE importers of Haagen-Dasz ice cream have petitioned the High Court of Justice against the Trade and Industry Ministry, which, they say, has imposed an unfair import duty on their product to protect local producers.

Regent Ice Cream and Regent Food Stores claimed the duty was imposed in response to pressure by local producers Strauss and Tnuva, who are earning "exaggerated profits" at the expense of consumers.

The petitioners claim that there is a special discount on milk prices, totaling several dozen percentage points, given ice cream producers that is not given to other manufacturers.

The manufacturers, however, require more milk fat than they can extract from the milk, and are thus allowed to import butter and milk powder at prices less than 50 percent of what these inputs would cost locally, the importers claimed, adding that the ministry ignored these facts when imposing the duty.

Despite the advantages given local producers, the petitioners said, ice cream here costs 70% to 100% more than ice cream in Europe.

Tadiran workers promise to fight planned firings

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

WORKERS at Tadiran's communications systems plant, who held a rowdy meeting yesterday outside the company's Holon plant, vowed to begin "a serious battle" against the planned firing of 170 plant workers.

On Sunday, employee meetings will be held during work hours at all Tadiran facilities, during which decisions will be made regarding further sanctions. The dismissed workers were informed of management's intent during negotiations on a new wage agreement.

MK Amir Peretz, head of the Histadrut's trade union section, participated in the meeting, and told the workers that the labor federation would make all necessary resources available to the workers, including funding from the strike fund, if necessary.

Peretz said that since bonuses had been paid to Tadiran executives, the rank-and-file had every right to demand a pay increase and resist dismissals.

In response, a Tadiran spokesman said management has the right to take all necessary measures, including the firing of workers, to guarantee the company's stability.

Tomer forced to resign from Hapoalim

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

DVORA Tomer, the former head of Bank Hapoalim's internal audit division, was forced to resign from the bank's management yesterday after being charged with obstruction of justice in Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court.

Tomer is accused of disrupting court proceedings and concealing information from the Securities Authority, in its investigation of Eylon Tsubari, former deputy managing director of Hapoalim's subsidiary Gmolut. Tsubari is suspected of stock manipulation.

Tomer, a former OC Women's Corps, was forced to resign as head of the internal

audit division in May 1994, after the Securities Authority investigated her on suspicion of concealing information regarding Tsubari's activities. Since then she had been in charge of the bank's long-term planning.

She is accused of concealing a report revealing that Tsubari executed several irregular and illogical securities transactions. The report was given to Tomer by one of the auditors working in her division.

Tomer also failed to hand over documents and other information related to Tsubari. The authority claims Tomer failed to inform them of the reasons behind the internal audit division's initial decision to examine Tsubari's activities, and would not give them the name of a worker who worked with Tsubari.

Tomer is also accused of instructing her department to conduct a more thorough investigation into Tsubari's activities after she was informed that the Securities Authority started to investigate Gmolut and Tsubari.

Tomer concealed the findings of her department's examination from the authority, even though she was required, by law, to hand over all information related to the issue.

In her letter of resignation, Tomer said her innocence will be proven in court.

"I say time and time again, that I acted with honesty and believe that my innocence will be proven in court," said Tomer. "I feel I must resign as a member of the bank's management out of loyalty, and also the professional morals which have guided me, in all the positions I have held in the past."

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Aloni expresses 'faith' in Cellcom

Firm won't charge for airtime until problems are fixed

JUDY SIEGEL

COMMUNICATIONS Minister Shulamit Aloni yesterday expressed her "faith" in the Cellcom company, which late Wednesday night announced it was temporarily suspending the sale of cellular phones and acceptance of new subscribers until it overcame technical problems.

In the meantime, the company said it more than 55,000 subscribers won't pay airtime (8.5 agorot per minute plus VAT) until the problems are fixed.

Aloni expressed her "amazement" at the dramatic statement Wednesday by Industry and Trade Deputy Minister Masha Lubelsky, calling on Cellcom to stop accepting new subscribers and to indemnify existing ones for frequent breakdowns in service.

Aloni said Lubelsky had spoken without first checking on the matter with the Communications Ministry, which had awarded the public tender to Cellcom about eight months ago and was respon-

sible for supervising cellular-phone service.

The ministry, Aloni added, is in "continuous contact" with Cellcom and receives regular reports on difficulties and plans for solving breakdowns.

Cellcom president Ya'acov Perry announced the company recently received complaints from customers on difficulties in making and completing calls over their cellular phones.

In cooperation with the cellular-phone division of Motorola in Illinois, which supplied many of Cellcom's TDMA (digital) phones, it was decided to halt sales of phones and the acceptance of new subscribers throughout the country until further notice.

A few weeks ago, Cellcom took the same step in Jerusalem, where subscribers have suffered from faulty service due to the municipality's shutdown of two transmitters lacking building li-

censes due to court suits by neighbors.

But reception problems in the rest of the country had no connection to transmitter shutdowns. Perry said the cellular phones produced in Illinois had apparently caused blockages in the communications network "under certain conditions."

Cellcom and Motorola have brought in foreign experts to determine exactly what the problem is and how to correct it.

Telephone, Cellcom's competitor (and a partnership between Motorola and Bezek) was obviously not mourning the temporary halting of Cellcom's hook-ups and sales.

A spokeswoman said Telephone continues to focus on improving its service to its 160,000 customers "to ensure its high quality. At the same time, we are working hard to expand infrastructure throughout the country and developing additional services to Telephone customers."

Bezek sale significant if C&W was involved

COMMENT

NEIL COHEN

THE mystery remains. Was it, or was it not, Cable and Wireless, Britain's second biggest telecommunications company, that bought a 4.7% stake in Bezek earlier this week?

Cable and Wireless's cagey "no comment" suggests that it probably was. There is plenty of logic to the move. Lord Young, C&W's chairman, has been a frequent visitor to Israel of late. He has stated openly that C&W is interested in becoming a player in the Israeli telecommunications market. He has even advised the government on privatization and thinks it is moving too slowly. So it would not be terribly surprising if he was behind the provocative purchase.

If C&W was the buyer, it is one of the more interesting developments in recent Israeli corporate and capital market history.

It would mean that one of the world's telecommunications giants, a company with a growing

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BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

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WORLD MARKETS REPORT

- **US DOLLAR** - The US\$ has been range-trading between DM 1.25 - 1.40 and 95¢ - 84¢ for about a month. The G7 communiqué contained no more than expressions of hope that the fall of the US\$ would be reversed. The currency has rallied, as it had failed to levels that prompted some real buying, and short-term, the rally may continue. However, as the fundamentals have not changed, most market participants expect dollar weakness to resume. First quarter US GDP figures are due today at 12.30 GMT. The consensus estimate is for a 3.1% increase. There is little pressure for any further rate rises.
- **US TREASURY** - The benchmark long T-bond yields 7.31% and the market remains in a narrow trading range.
- **STERLING** - A bullish picture against the US\$, where a break through \$1.8180 is expected. Short-term, ERM remains in a tight range, with the market somewhat bearish.
- **UK GILTS** - The gilt market has discounted the likelihood of a 50bps rate rise on May 5, and is being led by German bunds, where the 10yr cash yield is trying to fall below 7%. The June gilt future (104-06) has strong support at 103-12 - 103-23. A break through 104-15 would set the market up for a challenge of 105-00.
- **UK EQUITIES** - A short-term bullish pattern within the longer-term up-trend has been established with a series of rising lows. Support has held at 3175, 3190 and 3200. Resistance at 3220 has been overcome and a challenge to 3250 looks likely. ICI (ICL, 77p) reported excellent first quarter figures, much above market expectations. We reported that we had recommended ICI to clients on March 24 at 71p and then again at 73p on March 31, and finally, last week at 74p. Cookson Group (CNSL, 229p) have advanced, and our clients remain buyers for a further 10% potential appreciation. This week we have been recommending Yule Catto (YULC, 277p), a smaller chemical company, to our clients, following excellent 1994 results and in light of the positive outlook for the current year.
- **ASIA-PACIFIC** - These markets are over-shadowed by rumors of Deng Xiaoping's imminent demise, factionalism amongst China's senior politicians, monetary tightening, low volumes, the weak dollar and nervous investors. There are few situations in which our clients are actively buying, but DBS Bank (DBSL, \$1, \$83.80) remains a favorite, as they are attractively priced on 15.6x 1995 earnings.
- **GOLD** - Some early weakness in Europe on Thursday did not last long, though it is expected that the US\$365/oz support level may be challenged. Dealers believe that bullion will go better, while technical analysts feel less bullish.
- **PFM ISRAEL GROWTH FUND**: Net Asset Value as at April 24, 1995 - US\$5.18

Any information contained herein should not be construed in any way as a public offering.

Bezek 1994 profits fall to NIS 290m.

COMPANY RESULTS

JUDY SIEGEL and RACHEL NEMAN

BEZEK'S net profit for 1994 totalled NIS 290.5 million, compared to NIS 323.5m. in the previous year. This was disclosed yesterday as the Bezek board of directors approved the balance sheet for last year.

Revenues totalled NIS 6 billion last year, a 5.3 percent increase over the previous year, making Bezek the top-listed Israeli company on the Dunn & Bradstreet listing.

The company installed 286,000 phone lines in 1994 - a 13% increase over 1993. Bezek now has 2,143,000 phone lines.

• **Fourth Dimension Software** yesterday reported a net 1994 loss of \$22.7m., compared with a net profit of \$1m. in 1993. Annual revenues rose to \$28.24m. from \$23m. in 1993.

Fourth quarter net losses rose to \$11.6m., from \$3.8m. in 1993. Quarterly revenues rose to \$7.18m. from \$4.73m. the year before.

• **Biotechnology General** announced results for the first quarter 1995, with a drop in net profits to \$402,000 from \$718,000 last year. Revenues rose marginally to \$5.75m. from \$5.68m. in 1993.

FIBI head: Market will suffer from proposed pension reform

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE capital market will be put back 10-12 years if the government goes ahead with its plans to reissue designated bonds to the pension funds, First International Bank managing director Shlomo Piotrowsky told Israel Radio yesterday.

Piotrowsky attacked the Treasury's plan for pension reform, saying continued issuing of special non-tradeable bonds for some pension funds would damage the capital market.

"I don't want people to understand from this that I think pensioners and Histadrut pension fund members should be ignored," he said. "I think they should receive as much attention as possible. It seems that the government is formally obliged to help them, but the issue should be solved either in the budget or by continuing to issue designated bonds. But only to a certain percentage of the population, only to existing members of the Histadrut funds."

Finance Minister Avraham Shohat has requested the Knesset Finance Committee to approve the issue of designated bonds with above market index linked yields of 4.8 percent annually to pension funds for contributions by members who have joined since the beginning of the year.

Shohat: Raise water rates for agriculture

JOSE ROSENFELD

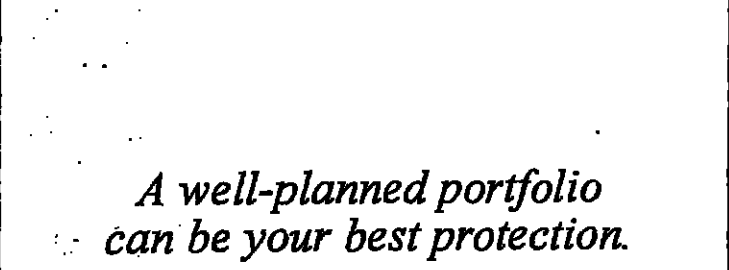
FINANCE Minister Avraham Shohat will ask the cabinet to raise water rates for agriculture by 5 percent, the Treasury announced yesterday.

Shohat's plan also will cut rates for treated sewage water by 2%, to encourage farmers to use treated sewage water instead of fresh water. The changes will increase the gap between the price of potable water and the rate for lower-quality water used for agriculture.

Shohat rejected Agriculture Minister Ya'acov Tsuri's request to cut treated sewage water rates more significantly and only marginally increase the price of potable water for agriculture.

He claimed that the Agriculture Ministry's position counters the cabinet decision to increase agricultural water rates by 7% and would breach budget limits.

If bulls and bears run loose on Wall Street, is it safe for you to venture there?



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by Avraham Avi-hai

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TAX COURSE

A Tax Course is to be held for English-speaking Certified Public Accountants who want to take the Israel C.P.A. Part "B" Tax Examination to be held in December, 1995. The course is in English and starts May 28, 1995. If you are interested, please contact Shlomo Gedy C.P.A., at Tel/Fax 02-434527, or write to 48 Hapigea St., Jerusalem 96382.

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ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (26.4.95)

Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	5.750	5.375	5.250
U.S. dollar (\$100,000)	5.750	5.250	5.000
German mark (DM 200,000)	3.625	3.125	3.125
Swiss franc (CHF 200,000)	2.750	2.375	2.375
Yen (10 million yen)	—	—	—

(Rates very higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (26.4.95)

Currency	Buy	Sell	Banknotes	Rep.
U.S. dollar	3.4488	3.5045	3.28	3.4733
German mark	2.1454	2.1917	2.10	2.1513
French franc	4.7463	4.8229	4.86	4.7772
Japanese yen (100)	0.0026	0.0026	0.29	0.0026
Dutch florin	1.9100	1.9418	1.87	1.9209
Swedish krona	2.5233	2.5352	2.54	2.5006
Norwegian kroner	0.4028	0.4135	0.39	0.4108
Denmark krone	0.4753	0.4830	0.48	0.4778
Finnish mark	0.0440	0.0458	0.53	0.0440
Canadian dollar	0.6940	0.7052	0.69	0.6980
Australian dollar	2.1519	2.1867	2.11	2.1684
Belgian franc (10)	2.1325	2.1700	2.09	2.1551
Austrian schilling (10)	0.0416	0.0424	0.73	0.0416
Italian lira (1000)	1.0407	1.0575	1.02	1.0458
Portuguese escudo (200)	1.0444	1.0540	2.59	1.0450
Spanish peseta (100)	1.7342	1.7622	1.70	1.7448
Irish punt	—	—	4.15	4.44
Spanish peseta (100)	3.251	3.285	0.53	0.522
Irish punt	4.2084	4.2840	4.72	4.8464
Spanish peseta (100)	2.3827	2.4313	2.35	2.470

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

Key Representative Rates

US dollar	NIS 2.9580	-0.17%
Sterling	NIS 4.7772	+0.14%
Mark	NIS 2.1513	+0.32%

NEW STOCK MARKETS

New York market indexes

DJ Industrials	4312.97	+13.14
DJ Transp.	1693.50	+0.28
DJ Util.	181.13	+0.13
DJ Comp.	1534.39	+0.18
NYSE Total	1534.39	+0.18
NYSE Transp.	1693.50	+0.28
NYSE Util.	181.13	+0.13
NYSE Comp.	1534.39	+0.18
S&P 500	429.86	+0.17
AMEX	479.66	+0.12

Unchanged Advances Declines

Advances	735
Declines	1078
Unchanged	1134

Other stock market indexes

FTSE 100	3217.6	-8.6
Tokyo Nikkei	16853.9	-1.78
Singapore	2200	-0.1
Hong Kong	8312.29	-0.5
South Korea	151.58	+1.58

Israeli stocks in NY

NYSE/AMEX		
Amir	6.375	-0.5
Amir	10.7125	-0.0375
Amir	6.375	-0.5
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Amir	6.375	-0.5
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NASDAQ - over-the-counter

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TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading

Two-sided trading

AFTERNOON

MORNING

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

RACHEL NEIMAN

172.56 +1.26% 175.36 +1.33% 135.88 +1.52%

Two-Sided Index Maof Index Karam Index

THE general market continued to gain ground yesterday, rising 1.34 percent to 172.56 on a healthy NIS 106.5 million turnover.

It was the third day in a row of rises, spurred on by continued reports of foreign investors here and increases in Israeli shares traded on Wall Street.

Morning trading opened with excess demand of NIS 77m.

The Two-Sided Index went up 1.26% to 172.56 on NIS 86.15m. turnover. Outstanding rises were noted by Gahleit, which increased 5.2%, and Cial Electronics, which rose 7% on NIS 61.26m. turnover.

The most heavily traded share was Bezek, which rose 2.2% on NIS 8.28m. turnover; Teva, which slipped 1.8% on NIS 5.77m. turnover; and ICL, which moved up 0.80% on NIS 5.24m. turnover.

Poalim rose 1.2% and Discount Investments went up 2.2%.

The Karam Index increased 0.76% to 1.52 on NIS 12.6m. turnover.

Scope rose 10%, buoyed by a positive first quarter report.

Other sharp rises were posted by Tal, Pargod, Ben-Yakar Gat, Rotem and Ma'arav - all of which rose some 10%.

The Maof Index increased 1.33% to 175.36 on NIS 550.6m. volume of trade.

Abjanc continued upwards, rising 5.7%. INOC rose 1.10% and Passport went up 4.2%, while Isramco and JOEL were unchanged.

The general bond market was up 0.10% to 139.34. Government bonds increased 0.12% to 138.67, dollar-linked bonds rose 0.75% to 140.54, and CPI-linked bonds moved up 0.04% to 138.94.

LONDON (Reuters) - Blue chips closed down after an initial rally on the back of first quarter earnings from chemical giant ICI and overnight currency stability.

The FTSE 100 closed 8.6 points lower at 3,217.6. Volumes reached 614 million with decliners leading advances 56 to 33.

The market lacks any clear direction at the moment," said one dealer. "It's difficult to tell which way it will go from one day to the next."

"For the moment it looks like the lead will be set by individual stocks," he said.

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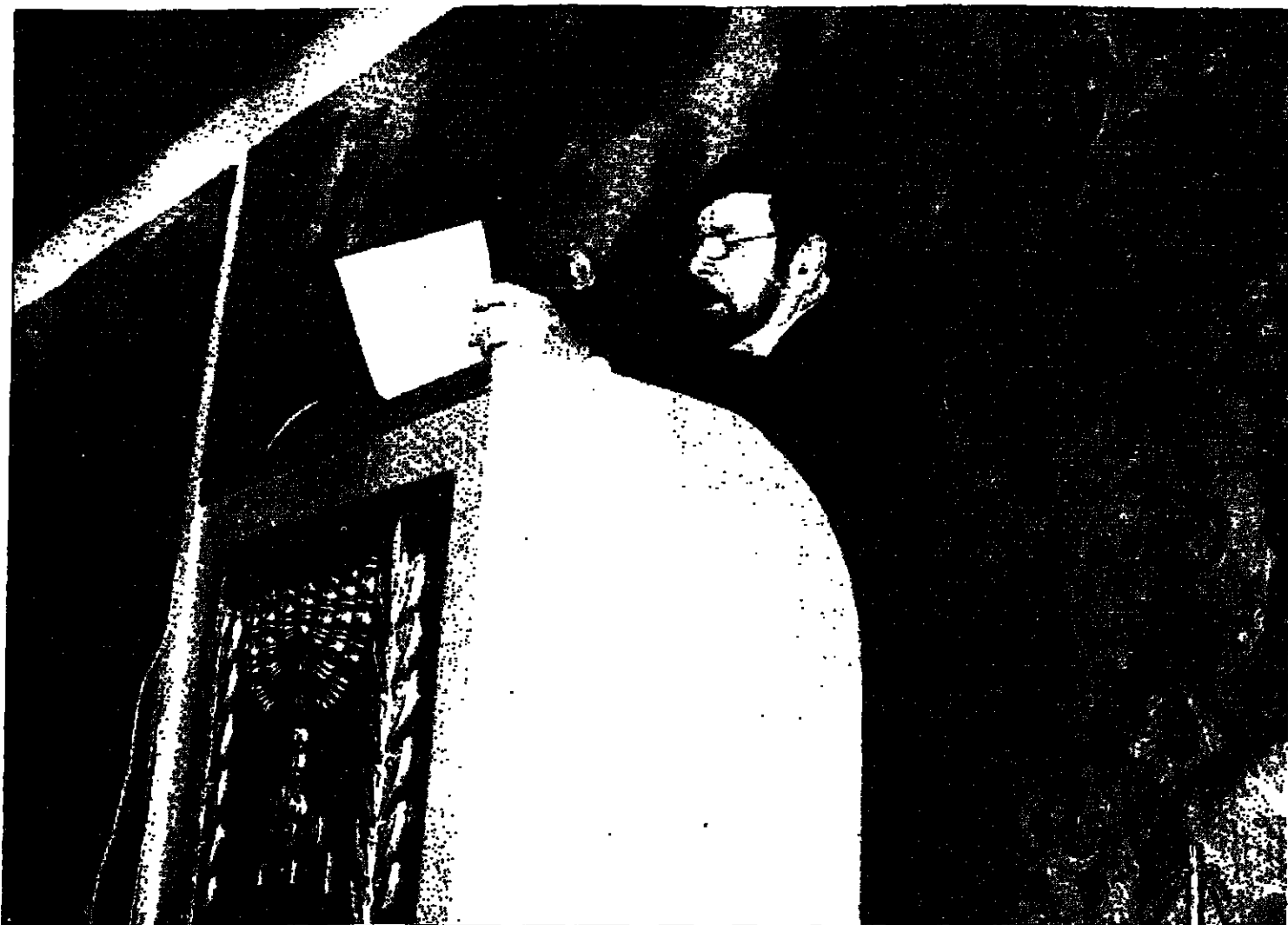
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Knesset Speaker Shevah Weiss, standing in front of Marc Chagall's depiction of Jewish history, reads out the Zelda poem during Holocaust Remembrance Day observances yesterday. (Isaac Harari)

Somber Knesset remembers the Six Million

LIAT COLLINS

THE Knesset assumed an eerie silence yesterday, as there were no speeches and no politics – just a simple ceremony to commemorate the victims of the Holocaust.

Against the background of Marc Chagall's depiction of Jewish history, the country's leaders and dignitaries read name after name of those who perished.

This year's "Unto every man there is a name" ceremony marked 50 years since the end of World War II.

The Zelda poem which gave the ceremony its title was read in full by Speaker Shevah Weiss. "Unto every man there is a name given to him by God, and given to him by his father and mother... I he joined.

Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael

Lau recited *Kaddish* before reading a list of his own relatives who died – his parents, brother, uncles, grandparents, cousins and their children.

Reuma Weizman read the names of two families "who symbolize the Six Million." Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin recalled his dead cousins, Haya Sara and Yitzhak Cohen.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres recalled his grandfather "who died in flames while wrapped in a prayer shawl when the Nazis set fire to the synagogue into which they had herded all the Jews."

Some, remembered, relatives, some friends and some read the names of those who died, leaving

no survivors to commemorate them. Environment Minister Yossi Sarid recalled how his father had changed his surname from Schneider to Sarid ("remnant") when he found how many relatives had died.

Opposition leader Binyamin Netanyahu read a list of names of Jews from the Soviet Union. "Before the Holocaust they numbered 3,020,000; 1,100,000 perished."

"As children, we were raised without grandparents and we asked why," said Labor MK and Jewish Agency chairman-elect Avraham Burg.

The Jewish communities of eastern Europe were remem-

bered, and those Jews who died elsewhere: Labor MK Nissim Zivili recalled wearing the yellow tag of a Jew as a two-year-old in Tunisia, a country which lost 20 Jews to the Nazis. Likud MK and Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert recalled the Jews of Iraq; National Religious Party MK Yigal Bibi read the names of those from Libya who perished.

And on the list went. More names, more victims.

"We came here to remember that each man has a name and the uniqueness of each individual. Each person was a world," said Chief Rabbi Eliyahu Bakshi-Doron.

The ceremony ended with *Hatikva*, as the Knesset came alive with the voices of survivors.

Ceremonies mark 50 years since liberation

BATSHEVA TSUR

THE nation came to a somber two-minute halt at 10 a.m. yesterday as the siren commemorating the Six Million was sounded.

Fifty years after the victory over Nazi Germany and the liberation of the concentration camps, survivors, their families and other Israelis pondered the indescribable horrors and took stock.

In schools and at army camps, at Yad Vashem, at kibbutzim founded by survivors and at dozens of other sites throughout the country, survivors told of their experiences, the Yizkor memorial prayer was recited and the names of those who perished were read out.

Fifty years after, there was a plethora of ceremonies.

Yad Vashem, always the main focus of public interest in the Holocaust, drew thousands of people during the day, including large numbers of youngsters.

In the afternoon, a special VE Day ceremony attended by some 6,000 youth was held there in the presence of Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein.

At Mount Herzl, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin joined veterans and families in a ceremony for Jewish soldiers who fell in the ranks of the Allied forces.

Thousands of visitors also packed the museum at Kibbutz Lohamei Hageta'ot, where the official clos-

ing ceremony was held in the evening. A similar commemoration took place at Yad Mordechai in the South, where some 5,000 people gathered to be addressed by Rabin and Absorption Minister Yair Tzaban.

But 50 years after, Holocaust Day was not without its controversies.

Despite earlier opposition, the visit of Cardinal Jean-Marie Lustiger, the Jewish-born archbishop of Paris, to Yad Vashem passed uneventfully.

No demonstrators were on hand and curious on-lookers appeared to notice the visitor, who was shown around by Yad Vashem deputy director Reuven Dafni, only because of the huge army of photographers surrounding him.

Lustiger signed the visitors' book with both his Hebrew name, Aharon, and his French name. Later, he participated in a ceremony at the memorial monument for the Jewish community of Zaglambia, organized by the Jewish Agency at Modi'in.

At the Kedma school in Tel Aviv, a seventh candle was lit for the sufferings for racial reasons of other ethnic groups – as a delegation from the Betar youth movement demonstrated outside.

Kedma principal Sami Chetrit said the candle was lit by a Holocaust survivor and the original plan to mention the other ethnic groups by name was dropped.

Yishuv volunteers in WW II remembered

GREER FAY CASHMAN

THEIR gait slow and measured, but their spirits and the gleam of their medals undiminished, veterans of the Allied Forces in World War II yesterday traded stories of war-time exploits, at a Jerusalem ceremony to pay tribute to Yishuv members who lost their lives while serving in the British army.

The commemoration ceremony, at the Mt. Herzl Military Cemetery, was characterized by the usual chaos of the Levant. People shuffled and made noise, and even soldiers on duty gossiped with each other while Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was speaking.

"The ceremony could have

been a lot more dignified," complained Sara Rapoport of Tel Aviv, who served in 522 Company in Alexandria. "We Jews always make a mess of official ceremonies – as if they were an afterthought."

Michael Bograd of Ramat Gan, who had been an Ordnance Warrant Officer, said that "the ceremony was not organized well. People just milled around and dignitaries stood in a row as if they didn't belong. There was no beginning or finale which one could appreciate."

Not everyone agreed. Some veterans were grateful that the ceremony was taking place at all, and regretted that their numbers were shrinking from year to year.

Noting that 1.5 million Jewish soldiers fought with the Allies, Rabin said that of these, 30,000 were from the Yishuv. "They wore the colors of all the armed forces," he said, "but to us, they were blue and white."

As prime minister, defense minister and a former soldier himself, he said, he saluted them. After 50 years, the time has come to say thank you."

Woman found murdered in her burning flat

DAVID RUDGE

POLICE arrested three men yesterday in connection with the murder of a Karmiel woman for her volunteer work with ex-prisoners and the needy.

Sarah Nahum, 61, was found dead in her burning first floor flat on Wednesday.

The alarm was raised by neighbors, who saw smoke coming from her apartment. Firemen found the front door locked and had to break in. They discovered her body in the bedroom, while extinguishing the blaze which had

apparently been started deliberately.

Police said there were signs of violence on the body.

Neighbors said Nahum had run a shop in Karmiel until her divorce, and had subsequently devoted a great deal of her time toward helping the needy.

A police spokesman said two of the suspects, both known to the police, had been seen in Nahum's company on several

occasions.

One of the suspects, Mustaf Mansour, 38, from Karkab in the Galilee, was remanded for four days in custody. The other two, one 27, from Saknin, and one 26, from Karmiel, are to face remand hearings.

The third suspect is said to be known to the police, and was arrested later yesterday following intensive inquiries. The police spokesman said it appeared the murder resulted from a violent dispute at the victim's apartment.

Hospital files complaint against contractor for short-circuit that killed patient

JUDY SIEGEL

RAMBAM Hospital has filed a complaint against a contractor whose renovations in an internal medicine department caused a power failure and may have resulted in the death of a 78-year-old woman, Rahel Finkelstein, whose respirator ceased functioning.

The hospital also set up an internal investigatory committee to look into the circumstances of her death.

The Health Ministry said it will

wait for results of the committee's investigations before deciding what to do.

The incident occurred on Wednesday, when a contractor began working in the department.

A defective extension cord caused the electricity to shut down, at the same time causing Finkelstein's respirator to stop functioning.

No one was with her, as she had no family. A warning signal alerted nurses, who rushed to resuscitate her manually, but Finkelstein – who had been admitted earlier in the day suffering from severe respiratory problems – died.

After management learned of the mishap, it decided to inform the police and the Health Ministry.

A few months ago, a contractor renovating a wing of Ichilov Hospital in Tel Aviv caused a shutdown of electricity for more than an hour, and several patients died.

However, a subsequent investigation could not clearly prove that the elderly patient's death resulted from the failure of their respirators.

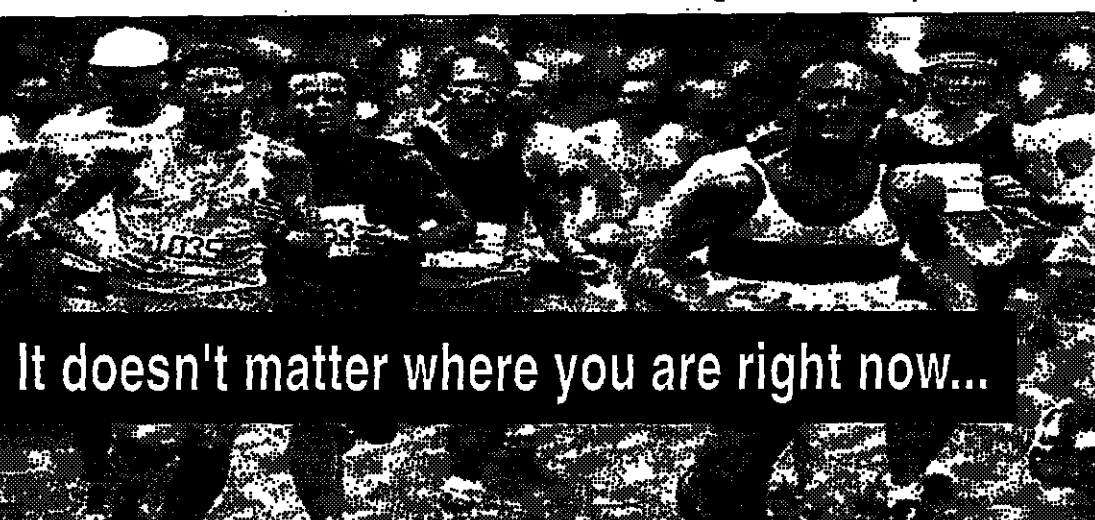
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مكتبة الناصر

IN NEXT WEEK'S THE JERUSALEM POST

Jewish continuity abroad or a country of "Hebrew-speaking goyim" here? Allison Kaplan Sommer investigates the ideological clash of the '90's.

The stigma of surrender. Sue Fishkoff visits Kibbutz Nitzanim, whose members chose survival over a fight to the last in 1948.

What kind of meat should you put on your grill? Rachel Neiman braves the barbecue smoke.

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THE JERUSALEM
POST

Nimrodi may be released on bail

MA'ARIV publisher Ofer Nimrodi and the paper's security officer, David Ronen, may be released on bail this morning, after an appeal to Tel Aviv District Court to reduce their remand from seven days to five was upheld by Judge Avraham Baiser.

But Baiser also ruled that if the police do not have sufficient time to complete their investigation, they could request an additional remand.

Nimrodi's lawyer Shuki Stein presented Baiser with secret evidence explaining the reasons for the appeal, and condemned the conditions under which his clients are being held.

Meanwhile, private investigator Eli Gershoni, implicated by state's witness Ya'acov Tsur in wiretapping offenses, accused Insp.-Gen. Assaf Hefetz of using information obtained from illegal wiretapping some 10 years ago.

Gershoni, who said he will convene a press conference on the Hefetz issue on Monday, had been in custody since Saturday and was placed under house arrest yesterday.

The police spokesman emphatically de-

RAINE MARCUS

nied his allegations. "We have no idea what the suspect is talking about," said the spokesman. "This is a deliberate and transparent attempt to besmirch the image of the police and the inspector-general, and divert the public's attention from the investigation with totally false allegations."

A senior police officer said that even before the latest developments in the investigation, there had been threats from "parties involved" that the reputations of various police officials would be sullied in the event of arrests.

"This was to be expected," said the officer. "These people [the suspects] have begun fighting a dirty war - in which all means are legitimate. But in this case, we will win, and these attempts to shed a negative light on the police will not work."

Gershoni, said police, was involved in wiretapping offenses for some years, and often worked with Tsur and his partner Rafi Freidan.

He is suspected of bugging the phones of



Ofer Nimrodi (Eli Kobi)

the Harcoel aviation company (allegedly commissioned by Arkia); a Rosh Pina fertilization company (allegedly commissioned by a rival firm); Gindi construction

company (allegedly commissioned by the Rubinstein construction company); and Elbit (allegedly ordered by the Arutzel Zahav cable TV company).

Private investigator Micha Rotem, who police said has confessed to scores of wiretapping offenses, was also released from custody yesterday.

In return for turning state's witness, Tsur was allegedly paid a different sum than the \$100,000 reported on Channel 1's *Mabat* news program. A senior police source said, however, that state's witnesses are usually paid for their cooperation. Stringent security measures are also usually taken to safeguard them.

Allegations - also broadcast on *Mabat* last night - that Tsur may have been involved in bugging Hefetz's phones on orders of a senior police officer 10 years ago are false, according to sources.

Police sources say suspects arrested this week are telling police about incidents of wiretapping that investigators were previously unaware of, and that detectives are having a hard time keeping up with the amount of material they must investigate.

Police say they'll concentrate investigation on Haberfeld

FORMER Histadrut secretary-general Haim Haberfeld is to get the weekend off from police questioning, but has already been summoned to return next week.

Police sources said at this stage, the investigation will continue to concentrate on Haberfeld, who allegedly used Histadrut funds in his failed attempt to hold on to the chairmanship in last year's election.

After Independence Day,

MICHAEL YUDELMAN
and BILL HUTMAN

however, police will summon Transport Minister Yisrael Kessar and MK Avi Yehzekel for questioning, the sources said. The two allegedly used Histadrut funds in their 1992 Knesset primary campaigns.

Yesterday, Haberfeld was questioned for a second consecutive day. Also questioned by po-

lice was Meni Weizman, who served on Haberfeld's campaign team.

Weizman, deputy mayor of Ness Ziona, was warned by investigators that he is a suspect.

Weizman, who served as deputy head of the Histadrut information division, was also questioned on allegations that he helped cover up the Kessar campaign's use of the department's services at Histadrut expense.

Gang of child burglars nabbed

A GANG of child thieves suspected of burglarizing dozens of day-care centers in Bat Yam has recently been arrested.

The leader of the gang is a 13-year-old boy, and his five cohorts are two boys aged 9 and 11, and three girls, 9, 10, and 11 years old.

Some 100 stolen articles, including eight computers, nine radio-tape players, paintings, various musical instruments, an electric kettle, and numerous games, were found in the home of the gang leader.

Investigators said the burglar-

ies had taken place over three days during Pessah week. They said that the young thieves had smeared excrement on the walls of the centers, then wiped themselves with pages torn from religious books.

The gang members were picked up on Tuesday night, after two of the members were stopped near a day-care center. Two were not arrested because of their age, but were asked to come with their parents to the police station the next morning.

The father of the gang leader was questioned on suspicion of receiving stolen property, then released.

(Itim)

INDEPENDENCE DAY AT CO-OP



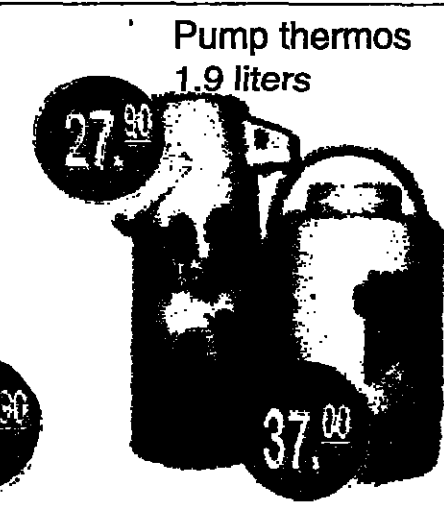
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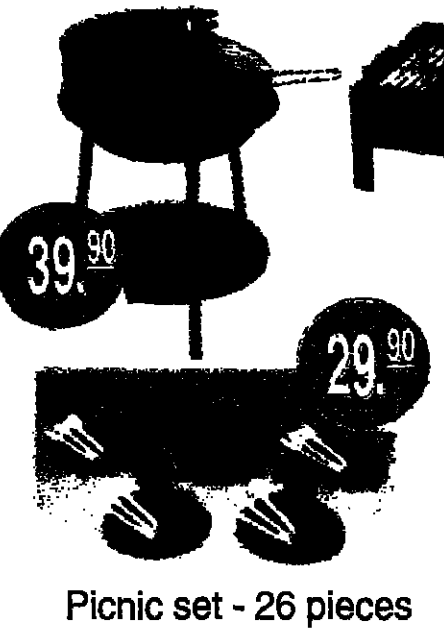
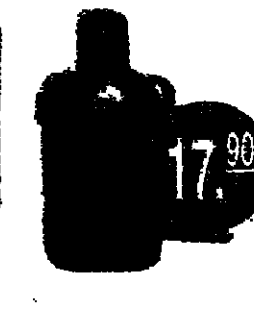
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